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SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1988

JAMADI AL-THANI 12, 1408 AH

16 PAGES 150 FILLS

Papandreou, Ozal try to melt the ice

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan. 30. (Kuna) Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and his Turkish counterpart Turgut Ozal today met twice to discuss ways to ease tension between their two countries.

It was the first such high level contact between the two countries since 1978.

The meetings, held during the world economic forum symposium in the Swiss Alps, could pave the way to formal negotiations on several issues that have over the past 20 years brought the two countries to the brink of war on a number of occasions, Greek and Turkish diplomats said.

Reception

Further meetings in Davos between the two leaders were expected to be held tomorrow, and possibly early next week.

The first talks were during a reception hosted by Papandreou, in the same hotel where Ozal was staying. Both men, surrounded by their assistants, came face-to-face, and took the opportunity to have an unscheduled 45-minute exchange.

Turkish sources said that the two leaders did not try to get to grips immediately with the issues that divided them, but instead spent the time discussing less controversial economic matters, particularly economic matters.

They then shook hands in front of television cameras. They later held more talks.

Floods hit UK

LONDON, Jan. 30. (Reuters) Floods hit parts of southern England yesterday as rainstorms threatened to give the country its wettest January since World War Two.

People caught in floods that submerged whole villages in the southern counties of Kent, Sussex and Essex were furious at weathermen who forecast a day of bright sunshine with possible showers.

At least three people died in traffic accidents on roads awash with water, which sometimes reached a depth of six feet (1.8m).

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں
وہاں تاؤ میں مدراج
ایک بارے میں یہ طرف
و شہزادہ مبارک السیفی پر گئے
و ڈی جی کو روڑی کی پاکستانی پڑاؤں سے
بات چیت کے بعد مل جائے
و دنا کے گزرنے میں خزانہ کی گنتی
و کیا یہ دوسری بار ہے کہ
و تری پر دوسری بار گزرتی ہے

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light variable and southerly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 8.30 am, 9.30 pm
Low water: 4.00 am, 5.30 pm
Sunrise: 6.38 am
Sunset: 5.25 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 18°C 64°F
Amman: 16°C 61°F
Falkland: 16°C 61°F
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 19°C 66°F
Amman: 17°C 63°F
Falkland: 17°C 63°F
Minimum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 80 per cent
Amman: 70 per cent
Falkland: 80 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 89 per cent
Amman: 89 per cent
Falkland: 89 per cent
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 7°C 45°F
Amman: 12°C 54°F
Falkland: 10°C 50°F

Saudis may resume relations with Soviets

MANAMA, Jan. 30. (AP) Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal left Moscow today after a three-day visit and cooperation talks with Soviet leaders, amid reports the two countries were to resume diplomatic ties after a 50-year hiatus.

Saudi diplomatic sources said Saud was to make brief stopovers in a number of European capitals, then proceed to Washington for talks with US officials before returning home. No official word was immediately available here or in Riyadh on the issue of relations. But the Abu Dhabi government-owned newspaper Al-Itihad said in a dispatch from Moscow that Prince Saud and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze discussed the subject at length.

Accord

It said the two men on Friday held a 4-1/2-hour session of talks and reached undisclosed accord on means of protecting commercial navigation in the Gulf waters and ending the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan.

The two sides "scored consensus" on the necessity of ending the Iran-Iraq war and on assembling an international naval force to protect commercial navigation in the Gulf waters if need be, the paper said.

The Tass news agency quoted Prince Saud as saying he saw eye-to-eye with Soviet officials on the

Palestinian conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.

The Prince delivered a message from Saudi King Fahd to Soviet President Andrei Gromyko, the Kuwaiti News Agency reported without elaborating.

It said that Saud's talks in Moscow also covered the ongoing wave of Palestinian protests in Israeli-occupied Arab regions, with the Saudis pressing for a condemnation of Israel by the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Al-Itihad said the two sides "supported the (Palestinian) uprising as a legitimate right toward a manifestation of self-determination, with the Soviet side backing the idea of an international conference" for peace in the Middle East.

It said the Saudi and Soviet sides agreed to press for an implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 598 on peace between Iran and Iraq, pointing to the likelihood of clamping an arms embargo on Iran if it rejected the peace option.

Readiness

The Soviet side expressed readiness to withdraw their occupation forces from Afghanistan as soon as possible, "if assurances were furnished that no foreign power will meddle in the Asian country's domestic affairs," they quoted the Soviets as telling Saud, in an apparent allusion to the United States.

(Continued on Page 2)

Globe-trotting record set

SEATTLE, Jan. 30. (AP) A passenger jet arrived back to Seattle this morning after flying 100 champagne-sipping philanthropists around the world in record time to raise money for children's charities.

The Boeing 747SP, dubbed Friendship One, began its timed run from a radio beacon tower at

Seattle-Tacoma international airport shortly after 0300 GMT on Friday.

It passed the beacon tower again today at 1617 GMT for an unofficial time of 36 hours, 50 minutes, flight officials said. That bettered the old record by more than eight hours.

Thousands march in Dhaka protesting police killings

DHAKA, Jan. 30. (Agencies) Twenty thousand demonstrators marched silently through Dhaka today in protest at shooting by police last weekend that Bangladesh's opposition says, killed a total of 24 people.

The march was led by Begum Khaleda Zia, one of the two major opposition leaders who have been campaigning since Nov 10 for the resignation of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

At a rally before the start of the march, opposition leaders called for another series of general strikes for Feb. 6, 13 and 14 to what they said will keep pressure on Ershad to step down.

Ignored

"The man who ordered the killing of so many people has forfeited all rights to stay (in power)," they said in a declaration.

A police official said riot police simply watched as the demonstrators marched through Dhaka's main streets in silence. "Some of them threw few stones at us, but we ignored because we were under orders to

not use force unless absolutely possible," he said.

The march was in protest against police action in southern part of Chittagong last Sunday. The opposition says police opened fire to break up a rally which was to be addressed by Sheikh Hasina, another opposition leader.

Opposition parties today raised the death toll in the shooting to 24 from earlier 17, saying they received evidence of seven more casualties.

Shut down

The government today shut down Khabar, a pro-opposition Bengali-language newspaper, for publishing a map showing Bangladesh as a part of India, an official announcement said.

"The publication of the map is an attempt to undermine the sovereignty and independence of the country," the Home Ministry announcement said.

Khabar (News) published an apology on Jan 27. Another Bengali-language daily the Jaijatra (Victory March) was ordered closed by the government for publishing "objectionable news."

UAE rules out imposition of income tax

ABU DHABI, Jan. 30. (Reuters) The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has ruled out imposing income tax, a top government official said, becoming the second Gulf country to do so since Saudi Arabia decreed, then revoked, a tax on foreign labour.

Finance and Industry Undersecretary Naser Al Nuweiri, in an interview with Al Khaleej newspaper today, said neither income tax nor foreign loans would be sought to shore up an expected

deficit on the 1988 federal budget.

The 1987 budget of \$3,897 billion had a deficit of \$745 million and Nuweiri said the deficit for 1988 would probably be unchanged due to fluctuating oil prices.

Services

"We are studying ways to shore up the deficit, especially raising fees on services," he said. "But there is no plan to impose



A Palestinian woman is started as Israeli soldiers run around a street corner in Ramallah firing tear gas and rubber bullets at Palestinian demonstrators who briefly took to the streets following Friday prayers. (Reuters wirephoto).

Presidential rule imposed on Tamil Nadu

MGR's widow sacked

NEW DELHI, Jan. 30. (Reuters) The Indian government sacked the widow of screen idol M.G. Ramachandran as chief minister of Tamil Nadu today and imposed direct rule from New Delhi to India's southernmost state.

The decision throws wide open a battle for supremacy between Janaki Ramachandran and her husband's former leading lady and close associate Jayalalitha. President Ramaswamy Venkatarman said he had agreed to a central government's request to impose president's rule and dissolve the Tamil Nadu assembly following "the breakdown of constitutional machinery in the state."

He said in a statement that Tamil Nadu Governor S.L. Khurana, who will rule on New Delhi's behalf, had been told to call fresh elections as soon as possible to solve a battle for political supremacy in the state. The political turmoil which has gripped Tamil Nadu since the death of Ramachandran on



Janaki

Dec 24 boiled over on Thursday when baton-wielding police were sent into the state assembly to break up unprecedented violence between members.

At least 12 people were hurt as politicians wrenched microphones from their mountings to use them as clubs and hurled paperweights and sandals at opponents.

Ramachandran's widow Janaki emerged from the bruising

session with a vote of confidence.

Jayalalitha, 40, who claimed overwhelming grassroots support in the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) party, and the opposition Congress (I) had demanded that New Delhi step in to impose direct rule and call elections.

The move ended 10 years of rule by the AIADMK founded by Ramachandran and over which the film star turned politician towered until his death aged 70.

MGR, as he was always known, was a crucial supporter of efforts to end a Tamil separatist war in Sri Lanka.

And continuing support from Tamil Nadu, home to India's 50 million Tamils, is considered vital in New Delhi to the success of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord signed last July under which Indian troops are deployed in Sri Lanka.

The President's announcement came after Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's cabinet met

(Continued on Page 2)

Tribals massacre 30 people in Tripura

NEW DELHI, Jan. 30. (Agencies) Tribal rebels shot and killed 30 people in four attacks in northeastern Tripura state, the United News of India reported today.

Authorities blamed the killings on the Tribal National Volunteers, an outlawed group seeking a separate state, the news agency said. The group has been blamed for at least 61 killings this year.

The rebels claim that the 18 tribes in Tripura have been culturally and economically overwhelmed by settlers from West Bengal state and neighbouring Bangladesh.

The victims were Bengalis settled in the state, UNI said. Tripura is about 1,500 kilometres (930 miles) southeast of New Delhi.

UNI said the victims of the shootings last night included women and children but did not give any further details.

Tripura, which holds state government elections Feb 2, was declared a "disturbed area" yesterday by the federal government.

The declaration, ordered after an election tour of the state by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, gives the government sweeping powers to search, detain and interrogate suspects.

During his visit, Rajiv ruled out a political dialogue with TNV leader Bijoy Kumar Hrangkhaw, an approach favoured by the state's government.

Rajiv also told reporters in the state capital, Agartala, that Bangladesh had not kept a promise to suppress TNV guerrillas sheltering in its territory.

Government officials in Dhaka denied Bangladesh aided the rebels.

An official statement in New Delhi said the tribal rebels were planning to disrupt the elections.

"Violence is directed against non-tribals and their objective is to create communal tension," the statement said.

The Marxist Communist Party has been in power in the state since 1977 and currently holds 37 seats in the 60-member assembly. Rajiv's Congress Party holds 12 seats.

Pressure exerted on abductors

Syria wants Schray released

BEIRUT, Jan. 30. (AP) Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon was reported today to be "exerting pressure" on kidnappers to release a West German hostage whose abduction in West Beirut presented a major challenge to law-enforcing Syrian forces.

A Syrian source, who refused to be named, said Brig. Gen. Ghazi Knezan arrived in West Beirut late Friday and has informed the kidnappers of West German industrial engineer Ralph Schray that the "Syrian command will deal firmly with Schray's abduction."

Knezan's "message was that Syria wants Schray released, the sooner the better," the source

added. He refused to identify the kidnappers or say how was the military intelligence chief's reported message conveyed to them.

Knezan, who came from Damascus, the Syrian capital, is "already exerting pressure on the kidnappers," the source said. He refused to elaborate on the remark.

No group has claimed responsibility for kidnapping Schray. The 30-year-old West German was snatched on Wednesday while walking across a sidewalk off West Beirut's Hamra commercial thoroughfare.

However, suspicion has focused on Shiite Muslim pro-Iranian groups involved in many

20 Palestinians shot and wounded by Israeli troops

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30. (Agencies) Israeli troops shot and wounded about 20 Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank today in the first major outbreak of unrest in two weeks, hospital officials said.

Around 20 Palestinians were brought to the Al-Itihad hospital in Nablus with gunshot wounds after clashes between troops and protesters who burned tyres and hurled stones.

Two of the demonstrators were seriously wounded, the hospital officials told Reuters.

They said the casualties included an 11-year-old boy hit in the neck and a 13-year-old bit in the hand.

Another five Palestinians were wounded by rubber bullets and six women suffered from tear gas inhalation during the clashes in Nablus, they said.

A doctor at one Nablus hospital said eight people wounded by live fire had been admitted for treatment.

Barred

After a morning of protests the Army declared Nablus a "closed military zone" and barred journalists from the area. A military spokesman said Nablus was closed to allow tensions to ease.

Also today, a curfew was slapped on the UN-run Balata refugee camp outside Nablus after troops used rubber bullets and tear gas to break up demonstrations, the military spokesman said. He said Israeli troops shot and wounded at least eight Palestinians today.

Palestinian sources said troops using live ammunition and rubber bullets wounded 25 people.

In Gaza city, an Israeli soldier shot and seriously wounded a Palestinian in the chest after he tried to grab his weapon during a demonstration, an Armspokeswoman said.

Protest

She said a 17-year-old woman was also slightly injured in the hand during the clash, in which several protesters hurled metal pipes at soldiers who demanded they clear the road of blockades of stones and burning tyres.

Palestinian sources said an Arab man aged 22 and a 20-year-old woman were shot and wounded by troops in Gaza when Palestinians gathered to protest

against soldiers who stormed homes and beat people.

Israel radio said troops dispersed some 50 Palestinian youths in Palestine Square in Gaza by beating them with clubs.

Hospital officials said at least 40 Palestinians injured by beatings were brought to the Shifa and Ahli hospitals in Gaza.

In Nablus, press photographers said thousands of residents danced on rooftops, shouting anti-Israeli slogans, and used slingshots to hurl stones at Army helicopters dropping tear gas grenades on the market town. Scores of people waved Palestinian flags.

Today's protests followed diplomatic moves, spurred by the worst violence in 20 years of Israeli occupation, to find a political solution to the Palestinian problem.

Urged

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir urged the United States today to press Jordan and Egypt to hold direct negotiations with Israel on Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

In an interview with Israel radio, Shamir said Washington, Amman and Cairo could agree on a Palestinian delegation to peace talks which would work for autonomy in the occupied areas.

The UN Security Council agreed last night to consider a compromise draft resolution calling upon Israel to halt all practices that violate the human rights of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The draft was hammered out in three days of informal consultations and will be debated formally on Monday by the 15-member council.

Guidance

Diplomats said most of the council members had agreed upon the text, but that the US delegate was seeking guidance from Washington. They said the United States preferred to delay a vote until Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak ends his current visit to discuss Middle East peace.

The United States takes over chairmanship of the Security Council on Monday.

Mubarak has ended his Washington visit with assurances that the United States will

(Continued on Page 2)

Jordan and PLO will work for conference

AMMAN, Jan. 30. (Reuters) Jordan and the PLO have agreed to focus on protests in Israeli-occupied lands in a joint Arab campaign for a Middle East peace conference, both sides said today.

They described their three days of talks which ended in Amman yesterday as positive and said more consultations were planned, though no dates had been set.

No agreement was announced on resuming a joint PLO-Jordan approach to peace that collapsed two years ago and a PLO delegate said renewing the accord had not been the PLO's aim.

"Frankly, we did not come here to discuss a return to the accord or to discuss a new agreement," PLO executive

committee member Abdallah Hourani told a news conference.

King Hussein and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat agreed to resume political dialogue at November's Arab League summit in Amman.

Hourani linked this week's talks to a decision by Arab foreign ministers a week ago to form a seven-member team, including Jordao and the PLO, to forge an Arab peace strategy.

"We agreed to support the resistance in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to coordinate our positions in the seven-member Arab committee," Jordan's Information Minister Hani Al Khasawneh said. "The doors are open for more meetings."

Both sides said they wanted an international conference under United Nations auspices.

DAY BY DAY

SHUWAIKH Industrial Area is overcrowded and the government is attempting to solve this problem by moving businesses out of the area. Why doesn't the government allow the Ardhizya Area, which is privately owned, to be used for industrial businesses such as garages, spare parts sales and other such purposes, which are being removed from the Shuwaikh Area?

If the government wants to reduce the number of businesses in Shuwaikh it should provide an opportunity for these owners to relocate to other areas.

Zahed Matar

UN is owed \$1b in dues

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 30, (Reuters): The financially strapped United Nations is owed nearly one billion dollars in unpaid dues, a UN spokesman said.

He said \$172.9 million has so far been paid in 1988 contributions, leaving \$597.6 million still to be collected for the current year.

Unpaid budget dues for 1987 and all previous years amount to nearly \$340.9 million, making a total outstanding of \$938.5 million.

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has often complained that the organisation's money troubles stem from the failure of member states to pay their contributions promptly and in full.

The spokesman said 14 of the UN's 159 members had already paid their 1988 dues in full and had no arrears for prior years: Albania, Bahrain, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Kuwait, Malta, Norway, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Sweden.

Sixteen countries owe nothing for 1987 or prior years but still have a part of their 1988 assessment outstanding: Australia, Britain, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Gabon, West Germany, India, Iraq, Japan, Malawi, Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Somalia, Venezuela and Zambia.

Mistrial in smoker's suit

LLEXINGTON, Mississippi, Jan 30, (AP): A judge declared a mistrial after a jury said it was unable to reach a verdict in a \$17-million lawsuit filed against a cigarette manufacturer by a lung cancer victim.

The jury deliberated almost three hours Thursday and nearly eight hours Friday in the case against American Brands Inc. before announcing it was deadlocked 7-5. Nine votes were required for a verdict.

Holmes county circuit judge Gray Evans then declared the mistrial.

The suit against the company, which manufactures Pall Mall and other brands, was brought in 1986 by Nathan Horton, 50, a housing contractor who died of lung cancer Jan 25, 1987. His estate continued the case, seeking \$2 million in compensatory and \$15 million in punitive damages.

Horton smoked two packs of unfiltered Pall Malls a day for about 35 years. His videotaped testimony, recorded before his death, was played at the trial.

Severe blow to Kampuchean coalition

Sihanouk quits rebel alliance

BEIJING, Jan 30, (AP): Cambodia's mercurial resistance leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said today he had resigned "irrevocably" as head of the three-party coalition fighting to end Vietnam's nine-year military occupation of Cambodia.

Sihanouk, in a handwritten statement in French, said he had spent "many sleepless nights" before deciding to quit as president of Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia), a post he has held since the anti-Vietnamese coalition was formed in June 1982.

Sihanouk's departure could be a severe diplomatic blow to the prestige of the coalition. The main military force in the group, the China-backed Khmer Rouge, is tainted by its past history of atrocities, and nationalist leader Son Sann has little international stature.

Fight
The 65-year-old former monarch said his forces would continue to fight Vietnam's 140,000 troops in Cambodia along with the communist Khmer Rouge and the forces of Son Sann.

He designated his son, Prince Ranariddh, who heads Sihanouk's military forces to represent

him in the coalition.

Sihanouk, who last May announced he was taking a one year "leave of absence" from the coalition presidency after accusing Khmer Rouge forces of attacking his own, this time criticised Son Sann.

Despite his announced leave of absence, Sihanouk continued to act as president of the government at diplomatic events.

Sihanouk linked his rift with Son Sann to Sihanouk's recent negotiations in Paris with Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Vietnam-installed government in Phnom Penh.

He said Son Sann and his Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) "have never ceased their attempts to discredit me by all means."

Solution

He said that in opening talks with Hun Sen "to try to find a fair solution to this tragic and bloody problem of Cambodia" Son Sann had "never hesitated to accuse me unjustly of 'national treason' and 'playing the game of the Vietnamese colonialists'."

Both the Khmer Rouge and Son Sann have refused to join the talks, Son Sann said there should

be no talks unless Vietnam takes part or first pulls its troops out of Cambodia.

Sihanouk did not comment on the future of his talks with Hun Sen.

In December and earlier this month he held two rounds of talks in Paris, reaching a broad agreement on the need for national reconciliation but making little apparent headway of a timetable for Vietnamese troop withdrawal, the future role of the Khmer Rouge and Sihanouk's demand that the Hun Sen government be dismantled.

Sihanouk, 65, who was driven from power in a 1970 coup, has always had volatile relations with his coalition partners. He has threatened to resign on numerous occasions, and has had particularly uneasy ties with the Khmer Rouge, which held him under house arrest and killed several of his family members during the 1975-1978 period when they exercised their vicious rule over Cambodia.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in December 1978, driving the Khmer Rouge from Phnom Penh and installing a puppet government in the capital.

Filipino communists expand hit-list

Rebels plan to kill US envoy

MANILA, Jan 30, (AP): Communist rebels were reported today to be considering an assassination attempt on the US ambassador and were threatening to kill any foreigner involved in the counterinsurgency effort.

The warnings were made in an interview conducted by an Australian journalist with two officials of the Alex Boncayao Brigade, a Manila-based urban guerrilla unit held responsible for the murders of scores of police and soldiers in the capital last year.

The journalist, Gwen Robinson, is a free-lance writer who contributes reports to several publications, including the South China Morning Post of Hong Kong.

In the interview, two brigade spokesmen, identified only by the aliases "Sonny" and "Jesse," said they were "considering" an

attempt on the life of US Ambassador Nicholas Platt.

"But we will give him ample time and warning before we do it," Jesse said without elaborating. Communist rebels frequently have accused the United States of meddling in Philippine affairs.

The two spokesmen also said the list of potential targets was being expanded to include nationalities other than Filipinos and Americans. The rebels repeatedly have warned of attacks on US troops and civilians allegedly involved in the government's fight against the guerrillas.

The rebels ambushed three Philippine Constabulary troops today near Cebu city, killing a captain and wounding a sergeant in a pre-dawn shootout. The killing came one day after

rebel assassination teams shot and killed two policemen in Bacolod city in what appeared to be a stepped-up campaign by the New People's Army against soldiers and law enforcement officers.

A constabulary report said five gunmen opened fire on Capt. Danilo Tapdan, commanding officer of the 348th PC company, and two sergeants after they left a tavern where an informant reported seeing suspected members of a rebel assassination team.

Cebu city is the country's second major metropolitan area and is some 560 kilometres southeast of Manila.

In Bacolod city, 480 kilometres south of the capital, the military said three gunmen opened fire on patrolman Joe Carino, 31, as he was returning home early Friday.



A man, his face covered in cuts, stares vacantly as his shack goes up in flames in Cape Town's KTC squatters camp. (Reuters wirephoto)

Scientists unlock key to taste

BALTIMORE, Jan 30, (UPI): Scientists working to unlock the biochemical key to taste have identified mechanisms that appear to trigger the widely varying sensations of sweet, sour, salty and bitter, research showed.

Discoveries by two research groups working independently in West Germany and Japan indicate intracellular substances called cyclic nucleotides are central to the reception of sweet tastes, the scientists reported in the journal Nature.

"These two papers show much more convincing evidence that the complexities of tastes seem to be related to different mechanisms," said Geoffrey Gold, an assistant professor at Yale University School of Medicine.

Gold said unlocking the biochemical key to triggering specific tastes "has tremendous applications... anything that will help enhance taste is going to have a big commercial payoff."

Researchers at the University of Saar in Hamburg, West Germany, and Asahi University in Japan found the injection of cyclic nucleotides, which are common biochemical messengers, into sweet-responsive taste cells suddenly increased electrical resistance in the cell membrane.

Thousands flee as battles rage in black camps

CAPE TOWN, Jan 30, (UPI): Refugees streamed away from Cape Town's battle-ravaged KTC squatter camp today after fighting that has left two people dead and close to 3,000 homeless.

Black clergyman Allan Boesak, Cape Town-based president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, met leaders of the feuding factions in the nearby Holy Cross Church today in an effort to negotiate a truce.

The fighting, the worst since bloody battles that left 50 dead and more than 50,000 homeless in May, 1986, erupted on Thursday and continued into the night Friday.

Flames lit up the settlement, which is part of the giant crossroads squatter settlement established over 10 years ago by blacks arriving in defiance of laws restricting the free movement of black work-seekers.

Killing
Local residents said gangs of radical youths attacked supporters of the more conservative Masecedane group, which is trying to set up a municipal-style administration in the camp.

Masecedane leader Storeman Madubela, 40, was killed by radical youths shortly after mid-

day Thursday. The body of another black man, believed to be from the radical group, was dumped outside a police station a few hours later.

Heavily armed police blanketed the squalid shantytown today patrolling in armoured trucks. They barred reporters from the maze of sandy lanes that wind between thousands of wood, iron, cardboard and plastic shacks built on sand dunes about 20 km from the centre of Cape Town.

Hundreds of men, women and children walked out of the settlement carrying small bundles of clothing and other possessions.

Reporters looking in from surrounding hills said it appeared that about 400 shacks had been burned since Thursday, leaving up to 3,000 people homeless.

The fighting mirrored violence that erupted in the settlement almost two years ago, pitting anti-government "comrades" against more conservative adults known as the "widoeke."

About 50 people, including a London-based television cameraman, were killed and more than 50,000 people were left homeless by the destruction of some 10,000 shanties.

Taiwan leader buried

Thousands attend funeral

TAIPEI, Jan 30, (Reuters): Temple bells tolled and air raid sirens wailed as a hearse carrying the body of Taiwan's late President Chiang Ching-kuo drove past hundreds of thousands of people in the streets of Taipei today.

Saffron-robed Buddhist monks burning incense lined the route as Chiang's coffin was taken from the Martyrs' Shrine in Taipei on the way to a marble mausoleum in the countryside, near the tomb of his father Chiang Kai-shek.

The flower-decked hearse was flanked by police motorcycle outriders, preceded by open trucks carrying steel-helmeted troops and followed by scores of buses carrying mourners to the tomb at Ta Hsi.

As the procession wound through the streets of the capital, bystanders threw themselves to the ground and wept. Others knelt silently by the roadside.

New President Lee Teng-hui, dressed in a flowing silk robe, led a memorial service in the Mar-

tyr's Shrine attended by about 3,000 government ruling party officials and foreign dignitaries.

Chiang's Russian-born widow Faina, who was rushed to hospital with heart problems following his death this month, sat ashore in a wheelchair alongside her two sons and a daughter.

The service in the shrine, dedicated to those who died in China's 1911 Nationalist revolution, was Christian. Both Chiang and his father were Protestants.

High-school choirs sang psalms, readings were taken from the Bible. The service ended in the confucian tradition as the congregation bowed three times to the brass coffin.

The streets of Taipei were lined with Buddhist altars stacked with fruit as offerings to the soul of the President.

"He always thought of the common people. That's why we'll miss him," said a 26-year-old bystander.

Chiang was once the feared

NEWS IN BRIEF

Finland polls

HELSINKI, Jan 30, (Reuters): Finnish President Mauno Koivisto looked certain to be re-elected next Monday, as the latest poll today showed his popularity steady at 52 per cent.

The poll gave 17 per cent of the vote to conservative Prime Minister Harri Holkeri with Paavo Vaejrynen of the rural-based Centre Party at 16 per cent.

JAL crash

TOKYO, Jan 30, (Reuters): A group of 150 Japanese filed a suit in Tokyo today for about 15.87 billion yen (\$124 million) in damages from the Boeing aircraft company resulting from the 1985 crash of a Japan Air Lines plane, a court spokesman said.

The group were relatives of 58 of the 320 people killed in the worst ever disaster in aviation history.

Killing plea

MOUNT HOLLY, New Jersey, Jan 30, (AP): A distraught self-made millionaire who failed in five attempts to commit suicide persuaded an employee to kill him in exchange for \$40,000 and a \$60,000 car, authorities said.

An assistant prosecutor, Gregory Shivers, said the employee was charged yesterday with second-degree manslaughter — and not murder — because an investigation showed the millionaire had wanted to die.

The millionaire, Julius A. Bittmann, a 44-year-old Hungarian immigrant, was shot to death on Nov 25.

Border dispute

LIBREVILLE, Jan 30, (Reuters): Six African foreign ministers will meet in Libreville, Gabon, on Monday in renewed efforts to solve a border dispute between Chad and Libya, sources close to the Gabonese government said today.

Saudis may resume ...

(Continued from Page 1)

The talks also dealt with chances of improving Saudi-Soviet ties, the paper said. Citing Saudi official sources, it added that there "are no impediments to a resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries."

Arab diplomatic sources here, meanwhile, said that Prince Saud bin Abdulaziz Shevardenadze to Riyadh to "explore more deeply the question of relations."

Relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union began in 1926 at a consular level. The two countries upgraded mutual representation to legation in 1929. In 1938, the Soviet diplomatic mission to Saudi Arabia was recalled to Moscow, ending diplomatic ties.

Palestinians shot

(Continued from Page 1)

work to end the Arab-Israeli conflict but no sign of a specific breakthrough in Middle East peace efforts.

Mubarak is touring Western countries to generate support for a peace proposal that calls for a six-month cooling off period in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and international peace conference and a moratorium on Israeli settlements in the occupied lands.

Effort
A senior Egyptian official told Reuters Mubarak's three days of talks with President Reagan, Shultz and others were extremely productive.

Veteran US envoy Philip Habib delivered a message to King Hussein from President Reagan today the official Jordan news agency reported, in Amman.

MGR's widow sacked

(Continued from Page 1)

to consider a recommendation from Khurana to dismiss the Janaki administration.

The cabinet decided to act, said the presidential statement, because "there was a breakdown of constitutional machinery in the state and the situation has arisen in which it has become impossible to carry on the government in accordance with the provisions of the constitution."

Both Janaki and Jayalitha factions have voiced backing for the Indo-Sri Lankan accord, but political sources in Madras said an election campaign could bring hitherto unspoken reservations into the open.

Jayalitha's faction appears largely behind the accord, but the sources said the Janaki faction contained some politicians strongly opposed to Indian military action against ethnic Tamils in Sri Lanka.

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Kuwait, Czechoslovakia seek to boost ties

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received at his office visiting Czechoslovak Foreign Undersecretary Dosan Olcak and the delegation accompanying him.

Olcak delivered a message to Sheikh Sabah from Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chmoupek on bilateral relations and developments in the region as well as issues of joint interest.

Olcak also met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Othaimi and discussed bilateral relations and ways of bolstering joint cooperation in different sectors.

The official talks between the Kuwaiti and the Czechoslovak delegations began yesterday, headed by Olcak and Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen.

The source said as for the Iraq war, the Czechoslovak side has expressed the view that this war should come to an end in accordance with the international efforts represented by the UN Security Council resolution 598.

The two delegations agreed on the need that the resolution should be implemented in full, the source said.

Talks also covered the situation in the occupied Arab territories in the light of the current popular uprising and the Israeli repressive and brutal measures which the Palestinian people there are facing.

Shaheen explained to his Czechoslovak counterpart Kuwait's position and that of the Arabs in general concerning what is going on.

Shaheen expressed Kuwait's appreciation for Czechoslovakia's principled stance which is supportive of the Arab rights.

Olcak arrived here Friday night on a two-day visit to Kuwait at the invitation of Shaheen.

Shaheen hosted a lunch banquet yesterday in honour of Olcak and the delegation accompanying him, attended by ranking Foreign Ministry officials and the Czechoslovak Ambassador to Kuwait Thomas Strakos.

Message

Sheikh Sabah also received Somali Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammed Mahmoud Malingo.

Kuna learnt that the ambassador relayed a message to Sheikh Sabah from Somali Minister of Treasury and Finance and former Foreign Minister Abdul Rahmao Jame Barre on bilateral relations.

The message also included thanks for Kuwait's support and contribution to Somalia's development projects.

Sheikh Sabah also received Governor of the Capital Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Nasser.

Supportive

The Czechoslovak official expressed full solidarity with the Palestinian people, the source said, adding that Olcak affirmed that the heroic uprising of the Palestinian people has drawn the attention of the whole world to the ordeal of the Palestinians under occupation.

Uprising

An official source at the Foreign Ministry told Kuna that the talks dealt with issues of joint interest in the light of the current developments in the region in addition to bilateral relation of cooperation in various fields.

Symposium on housing



Al Roudhan and Latifa Al Rujalb address a number of housing issues at the recent symposium sponsored by Kuwait's Girls Club.



Interested citizens attend the symposium on women and housing.

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Roudhan, speaking at a recent symposium entitled "Kuwaiti Women and Housing," said the government was concerned about the housing issue and was continuously working to provide housing security for Kuwaiti families.

He stressed that HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister had formed a special Higher Housing Council to study the housing issue which was evidence of his concern in this area.

The minister said the government had allocated a total of KD15 billion for the construction of various housing projects and KD1 billion as building loans for citizens.

Al Roudhan added that the cost of government supplied housing had jumped from KD3000 in 1954 to KD36,000 at present.

Latifa Al Rujalb, the Assistant Undersecretary for Social Affairs at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry, also speaking at the symposium, said priority in government housing was given to poorer families. She encouraged divorcees to return to their parents' residence instead of applying for government housing, which was better for children, she said.

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Kuwait's efforts in fighting terrorism praised

THE chairman of the Riyadh-based Arab Centre for Security Studies and Training, Dr Farouq Murad, has said that the centre will benefit from Kuwait's security apparatus in fighting terrorism.

He praised Kuwait's efforts in this area during an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper.

He said that the centre had decided to award a prize of SR 100,000, a gold shield and a certificate of appreciation for the best book on security matters published during the past two years. This was to encourage studies in the security field, he added.

He said the centre had carried out 77 security studies and research until now. It also organised 35 seminars and 50 lectures. He said the centre's laboratories had the latest equipment for fighting crime.

He said the centre had organised 58 training courses.

service marks 50th anniversary

THE deputy director-general of radio and television at Kuwait's Communication Ministry, Abdul Rahman Hadi, is taking part in the 50th anniversary celebrations of the BBC Arabic Service today.

The Arabic Service will broadcast a four-way live discussion programme linking its studio in London with Kuwait, Cairo and Amman.

The organiser of the BBC's topical programmes chairs the discussion in London, and will be joined by Abdul Rahman Hadi in Kuwait, the Egyptian writer, broadcaster and former head of the Middle East Radio in Cairo, Farouk Khorshed, and the chairman of the Arab Broadcasting Union and head of radio and television in Amman, Nassoub Majali.

The link-up will take place at 1615 GMT on 9.825, 7.14 and 6.00 MHz, 702 and 639 KHZ to the Middle East.



The new cabinet ministers took the oath yesterday before HH the Amir, who urged them to work sincerely in the interest of Kuwait and its people. Picture shows the Health Minister, Dr Abdul Razzak Yousef Al Abdul Razzak, taking the oath.

Kuwait to host Middle East AIDS conference

KUWAIT will host the second Middle East conference on AIDS from February 8 to 10 amidst rising concern in the region to the dangers of the killer disease.

Health officials said on Saturday delegates had been invited from all 20 states of the Eastern Mediterranean region of the World Health Organisation (WHO), which stretches from Morocco to Afghanistan.

Although the incidence of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome remains low in the Arab world compared to other parts of Africa and the West, concern is spreading.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE), with a population of only 1.7 million, said last week 22 residents had died of AIDS last year and nearly 300 were found infected with the virus.

The UAE and other Gulf Arab states launched an information campaign last year on AIDS, for which there is no known cure.

The officials said speakers in Kuwait would include experts from the US, France, West Germany, Britain, Norway and WHO, which sponsored the first Eastern Mediterranean AIDS conference here two years ago with Kuwait Health Ministry.

Speeches will touch on the latest virus research, identification of the disease, social, legal and psychological problems and means of treatment.

A world conference in London last week urged a year-long international awareness campaign to halt the spread of AIDS, which destroys the body's ability to fight disease.

Installation of emergency dialling system praised

ADEL Al Ibrahim, the Director of the International Communications Department at the Communications Ministry, said the development of the emergency dialling system was the result of the ministry's concern that drivers using Salmy Road have an emergency communication system.

He said that telephones provided along the road were connected directly with the local fire-fighting centre, which would arrange for help from police and ambulance centres.

People using this road have already expressed their appreciation for the service, he said, which has been used on a number of occasions following traffic accidents on Salmy and Abdaly Roads.

He said that simply by lifting the telephone receiver, the caller was immediately connected with the fire centre. These sets have been specially designed to withstand impact caused by possible car collisions, he said, and were purchased and installed at a cost of KD7,250 per set. He added that the telephones have been installed at distances of two km along the Abdaly Road.

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Kuwait-Jordan bus service

ABDUL Wahab Al Haroon, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait's Public Transport Company, told a Kuwaiti daily that KPTC recently signed an agreement with the Jordanian Touristic Transportation Company providing transportation facilities between Kuwait and Amman.

Al Haroon explained that the agreement provides for transportation services between the two countries through Saudi Arabia on air-conditioned luxury buses, designed for long distance travel.

He said the services would be available after the agreement was endorsed by governments of both countries.

Kisr trying to breed fish on a large scale

THE Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research is striving to find the best way of breeding fish on a large commercial scale, the director of the agriculture and fisheries department, Dr Sulaiman Al Matar, said.

Speaking at a symposium held by the Agricultural Engineers Society, he added that the fish farms will consist of a number of types of fish, including subaiti, bamour and balti.

He said Kisr had carried out several experiments and studies on the best way to improve fish breeding, adding that the use of sea cages had proved the best.

Another speaker, Majed Hammad of Egypt spoke about some steps followed in Egypt, and said that the ordinary method used lakes.

Egyptian minister ends visit

EGYPTIAN Minister of Justice Farouq Seif Al Nasr, who ended an official visit to the country yesterday, praised the outcome of his talks with Kuwaiti senior officials. Al Seyassah quoted the minister as saying yesterday.

Al Nasr told the paper that Kuwait-Egyptian talks included all judicial fields and turned out to be a success. He added that the cooperation reached during his visit has exceeded formalities as well as the bilateral judicial agreement and extended to wider and longer range to include all judicial fields.

The Egyptian official praised also legislative developments in Kuwait saying that such developments have important effects on all judicial legislations. Al Nasr hailed Kuwaiti commercial legislation in addition to the naval commercial legislation and described them as "most modern legislation which reflect progress of the country in the fields of legislation and law."

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Roudhan to visit Bahrain

KUWAITI Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Roudhan will leave for Bahrain today on a three-day official visit responding to an invitation from his Bahrain counterpart Khalid Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Al Roudhan will be accompanied by a delegation comprising senior officials from the National Housing Authority.

During the visit, ways of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of housing and expertise exchange will be discussed.

The delegation will also visit several housing projects which Bahrain has been building.

ROYAL COURT

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received yesterday the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, and the Minister of Education, and acting minister of Higher Education Anwar Al Nouri.

Sheikh Saad also received the chairman of the Arab Shooting Union Major General Mohammed Adel Ali, the board chairman of Kuwait Touristic Enterprises Company Mohammed Al San'ousi, and rector of Kuwait University Dr Abdul Mohsen Al Abdul Razzak.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Vague and unclear stance

THE Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Aam yesterday described the Soviet stance toward the Iraq-Iran war as "vague and unclear."

The paper added editorially that the Soviets "who are harmed" by their support to Iran and by "their refusal" to the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 598, which calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war, and their rejection to an arms embargo on Iran, are working now "to improve their image" in the Gulf when they announced that the year 1988 is the last date set for the Soviet forces pullout from Afghanistan.

Al Rai noted that the Gulf Cooperation Council stole "wound Moscow to follow a more 'realistic and positive' stance toward the efforts exerted to end the Gulf conflict."

Ties with Romania will strengthen, hopes Kuwait

COMMUNICATION Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development Affairs Ahmed Al Hmaidah yesterday expressed hopes that Kuwaiti-Romanian relations will witness more cooperation and understanding in the future.

Hmaidah, who led the Kuwaiti side in the joint Kuwaiti-Romanian committee meeting, added in an address on the occasion of ending the committee agenda that the joint meetings aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

General director of transport and communication at the Romanian Ministry Valente Marshow, who represented his country's side at the meeting, declared his country's readiness to cooperate with Kuwait in various fields particularly in telecommunication and transport spheres.

The two sides signed minutes of their committee meeting which included boosting cooperation between them in land, maritime transport and exchange of information on transport operation in addition to deciding to hold the next meeting in Romania.

The Kuwaiti-Romanian committee meeting comes within framework of the 1980 agreement between the two sides with aim at facilitating land transportation and international shipments and reviewing obstacles which might obstruct that cooperation.

Seminar on injuries

DR Abbas Ramadan of Ibn Sina Hospital said that a seminar on injuries, which he attended in Saudi Arabia last week, recommended the establishment of an emergency centre and hospital specialised in treating a number of injuries simultaneously.

He explained that the seminar also recommended teaching medical personnel methods of treating injuries at the scene of the accident and called for the improvement of roads, the installation of emergency telephones on motorways and strict enforcement of traffic laws.

Dr Ramadan went on to say that the seminar discussed a number of modern technological methods of treating head injuries, adding that multiple head injuries was a major accident-related problem in Kuwait. Research on 180 patients with head injuries resulting from traffic accidents show that 32 per cent died from the injuries after 88 operations.

Algeria to hold film festival in London

LONDON, Jan 30. (Kuna): Public interest to the Arab film industry in the UK will receive another boost this week when the first-ever season of Algerian films gets underway at London's National Film Theatre (NFT).

Under the title "Identification of a cinema — the case of Algeria" cinema-goers will have the opportunity of seeing seven recent feature films, including three by director Merzak Allouache.

It is thought to be the first time that one Arab country has been singled out for its own festival, organisers of the event told Kuna.

Alongside Egypt, the Algerian film industry has flourished. Following 130 years of French colonisation, in the search for an identity, "Algeria and its cinema had to struggle against a real colonisation of the mind," British film critics said.

Algerian independence, a cinema industry exists in that country that is neither French nor American, but Algerian, the NFT said.

The event, which runs from February 2 to 26, is seen as part of the on-going interest in the Arab film industry by the NFT in response to a British public demand.

It was organised after last year's highly successful first London Arab film festival which featured 451 films, among them the works of Egyptian directors including Chahine's "Cairo Central Railway Station" and Ahmed El Mannour's "Red Dolls".

In the meantime, Channel 4 of Britain's Independent Television Network began last week a three-week season of Arab films including Chahine's "Cairo Central Railway Station" and Ahmed El Mannour's "Red Dolls".

14 accidents

ONE man died in a traffic accident at Baghdad Street yesterday.

There were 14 traffic accidents in Kuwait, with four taking place in Hawalli, two in Ahmadi and eight in Jahra.

Truffles appear early on the market

TRUFFLES have appeared early on the Kuwait market this year and in large quantities. Unfortunately, they have also appeared at very high prices, selling for KD10 to 12 per kilo. Shop owners are hopeful, however, that prices will come down to March, the usual time they appear on the market, dropping as low as KD2 per kilo.

Shop owners also expect that the appearance of truffles will activate businesses, which has recently been suffering.

Owners remarked that there are several kinds of truffles, which Kuwaitis are particularly fond of, and the market has all of the types for sale. Truffles are imported from Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq and Morocco, shop owners said, adding that the best truffles are Zubaidi and Ikhas which are imported from Syria and Morocco.

It was agreed the unusually heavy rainfall contributed to the early growth of truffles in Kuwait.

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A choice of truffles is already available to this shopper at Kuwait's markets.

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Saudis turn back truckloads of Iranian farm produce

MANAMA, Jan. 30. (UPI): Saudi Arabia inched toward a full embargo against Iran today, and an American warship rescued a neutral Yugoslav tanker bullied by an Iranian frigate as it steamed through the Gulf, officials and reports said.

Saudi Arabian authorities today turned back "several" truckloads of Iranian farm produce to their point of transit in Dubai, UAE after an undeclared Saudi embargo on Iranian exports, Arab merchants in the region said.

Arah leaders in November condemned Iran for occupying Iraqi land and expressed solidarity with Iraq and Kuwait, but fell short of imposing sanctions on Iran at the end of an Arab League summit in Amman.

Embargo
Diplomats said Saudi Arabia — whose relations with Iran reached an all time low after the July 31 bloody riots in the Saudi holy city of Makkah in which at least 400 pilgrims, mostly Iranians, were killed — appeared to be inching toward a full embargo on Iran.

"The Saudis are inching toward a full embargo against Iran," one diplomat said, "as part of wider efforts to force the Iranians to stop the Gulf war."

The "wider efforts" include recent Saudi attempts to persuade the Soviet Union to impose an arms and economic

embargo on Iran. Reports in the Gulf, meanwhile, said American and French warships yesterday rescued a Yugoslav freighter being "bullied" by an Iranian frigate as it steamed through international waters off the Dubai coast.

Iraq said its jets today swooped on Iranian positions along the waterfront on land, inflicting heavy casualties and forcing Iranian troops to take cover in Iraqi territory.

The high command in Baghdad, in a communique carried on Baghdad Radio said its forces repulsed a second Iranian effort to land troops by sea on the northern front, killing 61 Iranian assault troops.

Iraq yesterday claimed its jets attacked a tanker in the Gulf, the fifth Iraqi strike on commercial vessels in a week, and shipping officials said four seamen were killed in one of the earlier strikes.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has blamed Iran for the Western military presence in the Arab Gulf region and regretted that the stand taken by some Arab states do not live up to the spirit of the Amman summit.

Saddam, in a dialogue with the Jordanian press and published in the Iraqi dailies today, said that the Iranian attacks on ships in the Gulf initiated the Western presence in its waters.

The US naval presence has ensured shipping traffic in and

out of Kuwait. Saddam said, adding it was beneficial in the absence of Arab potential to do the same job in face of Iranian threats to Arab countries in the Gulf.

However, that presence was not meant to force Tehran to accept the UN Security Council resolution 598, he noted.

The President underlined that Iraq is maintaining a strong position at the war front and pointed out that the Iranians are launching operations every now and then in a bid to end their isolation and to say that they still exist.

Contradicting
The Iraqi leader said that the minimum requirement of Arab cooperation is that Arabs should not get involved in an alliance with enemies to the Arab nation.

He criticised claims by certain Arabs that they maintain strategic relations with Iran that cannot be changed at a time when Iran is launching aggression on Iraq and threatening other Arab Gulf states.

Saddam said that Baghdad considers such statements as in support of Iran at the expense of the Arab nation and "totally contradicting the essence of the Amman summit."

He wondered whether such statements were a return to the pre-Amman summit stands or an attempt "to blackmail Iranians and Arabs to achieve selfish goals."

Bishara in talks with Bahrain ministers

MANAMA, Jan. 30. (Kuna): The Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Yaqouh Bishara conferred here today with three Bahraini ministers on developments in the region, the Gulf News Agency reported.

Bishara met with Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak, Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Bin Khalifa and Economy Minister Ibrahim Abdul Karim, the agency said.

The talks also touched on Bahrain's role in the GCC, it added without elaboration.

House allocation

THE assistant director for housing applications and allocations at the National Housing Authority (NHA), Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al Samek, has said that the NHA would allocate 490 houses at the West Rabia housing projects in the first phase of the project.

He said this batch of houses would cover part of the applications received by the NHA upto Dec 31, 1977, and the NHA was planning to summon applicants every three months to distribute houses to them.

He also said that 265 houses out of 1,125 at West Fintas would be distributed by ballot.

Teachers asked to work diligently



The education minister (right) addresses the gathering.

EDUCATION Minister Anwar. Abdullah Al Nouri called on Kuwaiti teachers to spare no efforts in performing this "noble" profession, pointing out the state's contribution to education.

Addressing the fourth educational forum, sponsored by the Kuwaiti Teachers Society, Al Nouri said that the teacher, alongside the family, is directly responsible for raising future generations, "hence, we are before a sublime task and not a mere profession."

He added that before joining this profession, a teacher must be fully aware of his burdens and must love his job because this is the chief incentive that will enable him to give it his utmost effort.

The Education Minister noted that the task of Kuwaiti teachers is no less dangerous than defend-

ing the country, describing the teacher as the "premier defender" of the country's future generations.

Speaking of the system of promotions to supervisory posts, he said that it is based on logical grounds which will enrich ambitions of senior teachers and will guarantee minimum level of excellence on the administrative and educational fronts.

Al Nouri affirmed that this system leaves no place for favouritism which he described as a social disease that is deeply rooted in the minds of many.

He said that Kuwaiti teachers are well-paid and given many incentives that no other government employee gets, citing as an example that a Kuwaiti teacher, who graduates from the university is appointed on the fourth grade and receives a salary of KD450.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, yesterday met the president of the Arab Shooting Federation, Major-General Mohammed Adel Ahmed Ali (left).



Sheikh Salem (left) and Sheikh Nawaf meeting senior officials of the Interior Ministry.

Legal advice department to use computers

DR Abdul Rasool Abdul Ridda, the Head of Kuwait's Department of Legal Advice, said the department is planning to introduce the use of computer systems in an effort to facilitate official procedures with government ministries.

Speaking to a Kuwaiti daily, Dr Abdul Ridda said the department would be relocated at the new premises in Sbarq upon completion of construction.

He reviewed the history of the department, saying that it was established in 1960 as an independent department operating under instructions of the Council of Ministers. He said

priority had always been given to Kuwaitis in appointments and 78 Kuwaitis were currently on the staff and 18 non-Kuwaitis.

He added that the department had four technical divisions: Legal Advice and Legislation, Contracts Review, Legal Cases and the General Assembly for Legal Advice and Legislation.

He said these divisions took care of all legal matters relating to the implementation of the law, drafting laws, bills and by-laws and reviewing contracts and agreements.

Dr Abdul Rasool went to say the department handled legal matters referred to the court in coordination with all relevant government ministries and departments, and spoke for the government of Kuwait in international arbitration.

UFO sighted

DOHA, Jan. 30. (Kuna): A tri-colour unidentified flying object was sighted above Doha last Wednesday, Al Raya newspaper said today.

The paper quoted four members of a Qatari family as stating that they saw the UFO twice at sunset and again at 8 pm on Wednesday.

The tri-coloured, saucer-like UFO was flying at low speed and very low altitude, emitting a dazzling light, the four family members said.

Ministers meet, security officials

INTERIOR Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sahah received Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday at the ministry's offices in a ceremonial meeting.

The two ministers swapped portfolios in a cabinet re-shuffle last Wednesday which also included the appointment of three new ministers.

Sheikh Salem and Sheikh Nawaf met with the security officials, and the Defence Minister expressed appreciation for Interior Ministry's employees with whom he spent long years.

Sheikh Nawaf said he was confident that Sheikh Salem will exert his utmost effort to head with the Interior Ministry for the better, affirming that all must do their best for the interest of this country.

Sheikh Salem stressed that cooperation is firm between the two ministries toward preserving the stability of Kuwait.

Training course

THE eighth training course for the protection of VIPs ended yesterday.

The graduation ceremony was attended by the head of the VIP protection division at the general department for installations security and special forces, Lieut Colonel Abdullah Al Saud, and a number of senior officers.

Deadline for residence law violators

No big rush to leave

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THERE has been no real increase in airline passengers with the approach of the deadline for residence law violators because many people had already left.

An Air India spokesman said that most violators had left, but added there was still a 13 per cent increase over last January's traffic.

There has been no rush at the embassies recently. However there was a heavy rush at the Pakistani Embassy during December. Many illegal residents left Kuwait without collecting their dues because they preferred to leave than get arrested by security men.

Many violators gave a power of attorney to their relatives, friends or lawyers to enable collection of money due to them.

Extension
The deadline had been extended upto Jan 31 to enable violators to legalise their residence or leave the country. Violators still in the country will face stiff penalties from Feb 1.

The Interior Ministry had given a grace period for three months from September to Dec 12, 1987, and then extended it upto Jan 31, 1988.

The Interior Ministry has not announced any further extension of the grace period for residence law violators.

Symposium on education

KUWAIT'S Environment Protection Society held a symposium on education and environment and their effect on productivity of individuals.

Participants included a professor at the education college of Kuwait University, Dr Abdullah Al Hashem, the assistant under-secretary for planning and development at the Education Ministry, Rashid Al Hamad, and some members of the society.

Dr Al Hashem gave a general definition of education and spoke about environmental awareness among children.

Al Hamad said that education had an essential role to play in defining environmental problems and in protection of natural resources. He said the ultimate objective of environmental education was to implant environmental awareness among children and its implementation.

A member of the society, Mohammad Al Snairi, spoke about the role of environmental

education and its effects on the environment in general.

A member of the arts college of Kuwait University, Dr Abdullah Al Fara, defined environment and productivity and said they were a measure of efficiency. He said the relation between individual and the environment was a dynamic one and could be invested positively to achieve better standards.

ALO session to be held in Baghdad

AL Hashimi Banani, the Director General of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO), said the 16th session of the Arab Labour Conference will be held in Baghdad March 7, 1988.

He said that he would be submitting a report about the integration of labour in Arab countries and would raise the question as to why Arab funds are invested in European and American banks rather than in Arab countries.

Banani explained that Arab countries had organised the transportation of Arab workers from one country to another in the Arab world, but had found it necessary to discontinue this because of the economic crisis due to the reduction in oil revenue.

Arab countries were supposed to employ Arab manpower rather than foreign workers, he said, especially in countries with large numbers of foreign workers. He added that there should be a law which enforced the employment of Arab workers instead of non-Arabs.

Sheikh Hamad to visit Egypt

CAIRO, Jan. 30. (Kuna): An Egyptian weekly reported that Bahrain's Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Hamad Bin Essa Al Khalifa is scheduled to arrive here next February 6th for an official visit to Egypt.

Weekly "Al-Khbar Al Youm" said the Bahraini official will confer during his three-day state visit, with President Hosni Mubarak in addition to a number of ranking officials on developments in the Iraq-Iran war and bilateral relations.



Members of Kuwait's Science Club have invented a superconductor that withstands high temperatures and transfers electrical energy with more efficiency and with less resistance. The team, supervised by Ghazi Ahmad, began work on the project last year. Picture shows a small-magnet floating in the air above a nitrogen-filled disk containing the super-conductor, which creates a repulsion magnetic field.

Perfumes exhibition opens

ASSISTANT Undersecretary of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, Rashid Al Mijren inaugurated yesterday the Perfumes and Cosmetics Exhibition at the international fair grounds.

The exhibition includes pavilions for companies from Syria, Tunisia, Hungary, India, Thailand, Taiwan, UK and West Germany.

The exhibition, which will last until February 5 will be open for the public between 09:00 am until 01:00 pm, and between 04:00 pm until 08:00 pm.

Later, Al Mijren told reporters that there were more participating companies in this exhibition this year, and praised the International Fairs Company for its good organisation and man-

agement. He said that the exhibition will help activate and encourage the commercial movement in the country.

The exhibition is the fourth of its kind to be held since 1985 and is being attended by 56 specialist local companies and eight Arab and foreign ones.



Al Mijren goes around the exhibition.

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Going Places

Dancers steal the show

SEVEN more months are to go before the 40th Independence Day celebrations end with a gala on Aug 15. Each week, one Indian community is taking part in the year-long festivities which seem to drag on for eternity. On Friday, it was the turn of the Telugu-speaking com-

munity to bring a taste of their culture and humour at a six-hour variety show held at the Sharq Cooperative Society auditorium.

A two-minute silence was observed to honour the late Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and M.G. Ramachandran

before the start of the Kuwait-Indian Telugu Association's cultural show on Friday night.

A few hiccups, some false starts and several curtain calls later, the Telugu-speaking Indians got their show going. Despite the flaws, the show was a commendable effort on the part of the Telugu-speakers, who put in a lot of effort to provide variety and entertainment.

For the first time in Kuwait, a male classical dancer took to the stage with a rather vigorous show of skill and dexterity, performing several numbers to much acclaim. Prameela Surendran's group of dancers deserve special mention for putting on a brave show, particularly the peacock dancers. The dancers had quite a tough time wearing the real peacock feathers for the fine dance number. Some 25 students of Narthana, a dance school based in Abbasiya also took part in the show.

The highlight of the show was a political farce entitled "Votunna Prajalake Koti Dandalu" (Salute to Voters) about greed and power. Mr and Mrs D.J. Prasad, A. Syambabu and G.J. Subbaban were among the participants of the play.

The programme was opened by Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha and it was presided by M. Kalidas. Other speakers were



Children perform a folk dance.



A scene from the Telugu play.

Dr Kameshwar Rao, Dr V. K. Rao and G. Venkat.

The Telugu Association was set up five years ago and has been doing charity work, donating funds and clothes to the poor and needy in Andhra

Pradesh. They also collected money for flood victims.

Next week, the Goans will contribute glimpses of their colourful culture to celebrate India's prolonged 40th independence day celebrations.



Baturam performs a classical number.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

National Museum

Modern art paintings by Kuwaiti artist Ahmed Al Munayy are displayed at the National Museum; open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 6 pm.

THEATRE

KLT - Comedy

KLT's comedy Say Who You Are, directed by Steve Prescott, opens with a gala performance at 7 pm on Feb 1. "Repeat performances" are at 7.30 pm on Feb 23 and 4. Tickets - KD 3. For reservations call 3947651. Tickets must be collected from the Box Office, KLT, Ahmadi, or from Family Bookshop, Salamiya, two days before the performance date.

SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association

On Jan 31 a video film about the Hanao Village will be shown at the Kuwait Women's Society in Khaldiya. Women who would like to attend should meet at 9.30 am at the German School, Dar Al Athar Al Islamiya.

Ellen R. Reeder will lecture on "Ancient Jewellery in the Walters Art Gallery", 6 pm tonight, at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiya (Islamic Arts Museum). Flaskik

Flaskik will hold a Valentine dinner-musical at 6.30 pm Feb 12, Friday, at Al Dira Ballroom, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free transport will be provided from the Church from 6 pm. For tickets ring 2439451, Mabuhay or Lords Restaurants.

Winter Serenade

The Kuwait Players Winter Serenade features baute cuisine, music, show stoppers, nostalgic ballads, moody blues and celebrated classics performed by Ross, Jeony, Lynley, Reem, Rosie and Carol. Directed by Peter Godfrey, Ross Langblie and Glenis Muckle. It will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Meridien Hotel, on Feb 1, 2, and 3, Feb 4. Gala Dinner and show at 7.30 pm. For details ring 2656265; 5334695; or 5730641.

Goan Show

The Goan Community will hold a cultural show to celebrate the 40th anniversary of India's independence on Feb 5, 3.30 pm at the Indian Arts Circle, Floatees. Invitation cards available from the Football Club, Kuwait Goos Association, N.G.O.A. and organisers. Transport will be available at 2.30 pm on Friday (Feb 5) from the Church in Kuwait City, Abbasiya Coop. and Farwaniya, main road (opp. Grand Stores).

Contact

The next meeting of Contact, the information group for women, will be held on Jan 31, Saturday, from 10 am at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers particularly welcome. Tel: 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

Kuwait Singers

Rehearsals for the May concert are held at 7.30 pm every Saturday and Monday. New members welcome. Tel: 5331413.

Canadian Women's League

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb 6, from 4 to 6 pm. For venue and further details ring 3718678.

Japan Week

A seminar on Japanese business will be held on Feb 3 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Building from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm. For further details, tel. 2533000 ext. 1156.

Kuwait Welsh Society

Annual St. David's Day dinner at Messiah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912384.

Kapilku membership

Filipinos are invited to join Kapilku. Membership cards are available at the Philippine Embassy. For details call Jojo - 4877793.

HOTELS

At the Meridien

Versailles is open daily for lunch and dinner featuring a selection of meats and seafood, charcoal grilled to perfection. Affordable business lunch also offered.

"Open face" sandwiches are being promoted at the Al Waha Restaurant, until Feb 11.

At the Sheraton

A wide repertoire of music ranging from 17th to 20th century music, including light jazz, is being presented by the Sebba Sound, a quartet of two oboes, a bassoon and harpsichord. The group will give a one-night performance on Feb 10. For details contact the hotel.

At the Ramada Al Salam

Daily lunch, chef's special and dinner buffet at the Coffee Shop, open 24 hours. From Sunday to Friday, succulent steak and seafood specialties for fine dining at El Messa Restaurant from 7 pm to 1.30 am.

At Messiah Beach

British impressionist and comedian J. Harvey, who appeared in ITV's Copy Cats, will perform at the hotel's Nightclub on Feb 10. For details contact the hotel.

SPORTS

Filipino Non-Pro Bowling League

This week's match is on Friday, Feb 5. The matches in the morning are between Pasig vs Quezon City; Caloocan City vs Las Pinas and Malabon vs Paranaque. Pasay City vs Marikina and Navotas vs Makati will play in the afternoon. The games will be held at the Club 300.

Kapilku Sports Festival

Entry forms for this year's Palarong Filipino - sports festival 1988 - are now available. Organised by Kapilku. During the yearlong event several events will be held. They are: Basketball, Volleyball, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis, Bowling, Dama-Checkers, Chess and Darts. All events are open to men and women. For entry forms contact Gil Herico at the Philippine Embassy. For further details contact Bong Melencio - 4877793.

KLT aims for first hit in '88

"Say Who You Are" is 1988's first production by the Kuwait Little Theatre down in Ahmadi and if the rehearsals are anything to go by it looks as if it could be a hit.

Written in the mid-Sixties by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall the play is a cut above the normal farce. "It's more of a matrimonial comedy," says director Stephen Prescott. "It isn't all about ducking in and out of doors, the humour comes more from the subtle lies and the audience will relate to these lies since most of us have used them in real life at some time or another."

The plot revolves around a young couple, David and Sarah, Lord, played by David Burfoot and Jo Bywaters who lend their flat to Sarah's friend Valerie, every Friday night, so she can entertain her married lover, Stuart, played by Patrick Flower. The snag is that Valerie pretends she is married too, which leads to endless complications.

With only four roles it is vital that all of the players pull their weight but Stephen Prescott is lucky to have such a good cast. Newcomer Elaine Perkins is a real find and I think we'll be seeing a lot more of her in the future.



Patrick Flower and Elaine Perkins in 'Say Who You Are' at KLT in Ahmadi. (Photo by Paul Corneau)

Stage Manager Archie Gordoo has come up with a superb set, complete with bright red telephone kiosk which plays a central role in the whole affair.

"Say Who You Are" opens on Monday Feb 1st at 7.00 pm with a special gala performance. Then there are shows of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th at 7.30 pm. For reservations call 394 7651.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News Via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'laeb: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 Nuruddin Zanki: daily historical serial; starring Laila Taher, Ali Hassao.
- 5.30 Al Manahil: series for children, featuring Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attiya, Rabe'a Shihab.
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Soora Mio Al Tabbiya: documentary
- 7.30 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nab: poetry session
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Photographia: daily Arabic serial; featuring Gbait, Madiba Hamdi.
- 10.50 Aonahar Khalid: variety show, hosted by Rolah Al Farah, featuring composer Mohammad Abdullah Wahab and a number of singers.
- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Looe Ranger: "The Escape." The adventures of Looe Ranger and his Red Indian friend continue in tonight's episode.
- 6.30 Butterfly Island: "Blast from the Past." Craig dis-

covers a mine tries to defuse it.

7.00 Understanding Islam: a weekly local show on Islam.

7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a light hearted look at sporting events.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Hot Shots: "Cut Off In His Prime." Amanda Reed (Dorothy Parker) and Jason West are assigned to investigate the murder of a singer's friend, who was a magician.

9.30 Foley Square: "The Prosecution Never Rests." Alex and Jessie cooperate with Molly and Carter

even though they don't agree with them.

10.00 Q.E.D.: "The World's Longest Drop." This episode focusses on the life of an aviator in UK.

10.30 Best-Seller: "Ford." This series reveals the triumphs and failures of Ford, and his relationship with his family.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsweek
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque
- 0100 News Summary followed by Play of the Week 3rd Uncle Vanya Contd.; 10th Daisy Pulls It Off; 17th Chicken Soup with Barley - Part 1; 24th Chicken Soup with Barley - Part 2; 31st The Enemy Within
- 0200 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 I've Been Together Now For 70 Years
- 30 Album Time
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Back to Square One
- 0400 Newsweek
- 30 A Mozart Miscellany
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial Review
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Stuart Colman's Record Hop
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsweek

English

- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 50 Waveguide
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Hafez Pharmacy
Souk Wafel, Salah Al Din St.
Al Kawther Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
Hawail and Nagra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Orman St.
Salamiya and Rasmithiya
Al Ibo Nafes Pharmacy
Himoud Khalifa Al Hamid Bldg., Hamad Al Mubarak St.
Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Fulaj Pharmacy
Khalifa Fulaj Bldg., Mak-kah St.
Jleeb Al Shiyookh
Al Wahan Pharmacy
Souk St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Sahmiya
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton
Al Hamra
Hasna'a Wa Amalqah (Arabic)
Starring: Huwaida, Fuad Shariuddin
Drive-In
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Firdous
Param Dharam (Hindi)
Starring: Mitbun Chakraborty, Mandakani
Fahsheel Open-Air
Chor Ka Bhai Chor (Hindi)

Al Fahsheel
Eruthubedam (Malayalam)
Al Jahra
Wahem (Hindi)
Granada
Chacha Bhatija (Hindi)
Salaikhbat
Yar Badsbah (Pushto)
Al Jleeb
January Oru Orma (Malayalam)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Born American

PRAYERS

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Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.05 pm
Maghreb	5.25
Isha	6.45



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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IMAGINATION has always had powers of resurrection that no science can match — Ingrid Bengis, US author (1944-).

Madame Chiang's role in Taiwan watched

By Dan Biers

TAIPEI, (AP): Madame Chiang Kai-Shek's scurrying absence from public view since stepping down as President Chiang Ching-kuo died two weeks ago has not dampened the intense interest in her political role as Taiwan changes its leadership.

Some newspapers have reported that Madame Chiang, who is at least 86 years old, has been confined to her home by her stepson's funeral arrangements since his death.

But articles appearing in independent and pro-government newspapers Thursday suggested she was part of an unsuccessful last-ditch bid to delay newly installed President Lee Teng-hui from also leading the ruling Nationalist Party.

Lee is the first native Taiwanese to be head of the government and the party.

But Lee and Madame Chiang met briefly at her residence Thursday afternoon, and the mass-circulation China Times said in a front-page report Friday the visit was expected to dispel rumours of differences of opinion.

Influence
The country clearly remains fascinated by the diminutive but strong-willed second wife of Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek. Her influence was considered second only to her husband's when he led the Nationalist government on the Chinese mainland and, after losing a civil war, in exile on Taiwan.

Madame Chiang left Taiwan for a mansion on Long Island in New York soon after her husband's death in 1975, but returned in 1980 to attend ceremonies marking his 100th birthday.

She stayed and has lived in seclusion at her estate in the Taipei suburb of Shilin, spurning the public eye and sparking speculation she might seek to influence Taiwan's political future through behind-the-scenes manoeuvring.

Chiang Ching-kuo pushed forward a political liberalisation plan of bringing more native Taiwanese into government, scrapping martial law, allowing opposition political parties, easing press restrictions and ending a ban on travel to mainland China.

Some senior members of the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, who were contemporaries of Chiang Kai-Shek opposed the changes, feeling they eroded their authority, but there was no indication of Madame Chiang's position.

Many Taiwanese were surprised when Madame Chiang did not appear at memorial services for Chiang Ching-kuo, her husband's eldest son by his first wife, along with other family members.

However, she did send a floral

cross that was displayed prominently at the main altar to her stepson and reportedly selected his burial site.

The independent Liberty Times on Monday quoted unnamed sources close to Madame Chiang as saying that she had no ambition — "her heart was like still water" — and that asking her to intervene in politics would go beyond her wishes and capability.

But political observers generally view Madame Chiang, who is chairman of the party's central advisory committee, as maintaining strong influence over the powerful but dwindling number of old-guard party members loyal to her husband.

Some analysts, meanwhile, claim conservatives have sought her help in opposing the reform programme and limiting the power of President Lee, her stepson's protégé.

"Madame Chiang's moves will be closely watched," the independent Morning Post said in a headline over a commentary.

The commentary was beside a report that indicated Madame Chiang was involved in a bid to stop party leaders from carrying out their plan to name President Lee acting nationalist party chief on Wednesday.

Delay
The newspaper reported top officials agreed to delay the vote after receiving a last-minute letter and phone call from the "Shilin residence," a reference to Madame Chiang or supporters acting on her behalf.

The "residence" said a vote was inappropriate during the 30-day mourning period for Chiang Ching-kuo, the report said.

Only after deputy secretary James Soong gave an impassioned speech in support of Lee at a closed-door meeting of the Nationalist central standing committee did the group unanimously name Lee as acting party chief, the newspaper said.

The report, which was also carried by a pro-government mass-circulated newspaper, seems to back up an observation made by one analyst two weeks earlier.

Lu-Ya-Li, professor of political science at National Taiwan University, said that although Madame Chiang is respected in top-level nationalist circles, she "will not have controlling influence."

The China Times, a pro-government newspaper, carried a similar report, but on Friday ran a front-page story saying a 30-minute Thursday afternoon meeting in which Lee sought Madame Chiang's opinion on party affairs was "harmonious."

The newspaper also said Lee visited Madame Chiang shortly after he became president and it quoted her as saying the new leader was "determined, sincere."

Beaten indiscriminately

By Mary Sedor

SHUFAT, Occupied West Bank, (AP): Riot police dragged Palestinians from their beds and beat them in a refugee camp, despite a policy that permits blows only on rioters during violence, residents and a United Nations official said.

They said 64 Arabs were injured when beaten with truncheons during a night raid of this camp. The Palestinians said it was the second such raid in a week.

During the three-hour roundup, which lasted until 1 a.m. Friday, hundreds of men and boys were forced to lie face down in a garbage dump, according to one detainee, 15-year-old Mohammed Nizma.

The Arab-owned Palestine Press Service said 10 Palestinians were arrested at the camp, five miles (8 kms) north of occupied Jerusalem.

To end seven weeks of unrest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Israeli Army has entered refugee camps to arrest Palestinians suspected of instigating riots. But camp residents claim the Army randomly breaks into and damages Palestinian homes at night, and indiscriminately beats Arabs.

Investigates
Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, military commander of the West Bank, said the Army has court-martialed several Israeli soldiers and transferred others for beating Palestinians in violation of an Army and police policy that permits blows to be used only on rioters during violence.

Mitzna said violations were

not widespread and that the Army investigates every complaint.

"We are dealing with this issue 24 hours a day," Mitzna told foreign reporters.

Mitzna said the Army had to instill fear into the Palestinians, and as a result: "I often don't feel so well when I wake up in the morning."

Police Commissioner David Krauss said some riot police have also been put on trial for violations, while others were transferred. He did not refer to the allegations at Shufat.

Jamal Awad, a UN refugee and works agency fieldworker at Shufat, said after Friday's raid 64 Palestinians were treated for beating injuries at a UN clinic and Mukassad Hospital in East Jerusalem.

Awakened
One of the injured, Khalil Qawasm, said he was awakened at 10 p.m. Thursday by police shouting through megaphones for men between ages 15 to 45 to come out for their homes.

"As soon as I got out of the door, they fell upon me, more than 10 (riot police), kicking and beating me with wooden truncheons," said Qawasm, 27, lying in bed with a broken right knee, handaged head and swollen black eye.

"I fainted and when I woke up I found myself in (Mukassad) hospital," Qawasm said. He said he was treated and released.

Qawasm's father, Assam, showed two broken windows that he said police knocked out with riot sticks, as well as the smashed doors of a crockery cupboard and a closet.

Ronnie manages to overcome political setbacks

Reagan remains a major player

WHAT is so extraordinary about President Reagan as he begins his last year in office is that he is still a major player on the national and international stage.

A few months ago he was referred to as a "lame duck" as American presidents are traditionally referred to at this late stage in their presidential career.

It is a symbolic way to indicate the decline of their political powers. But the warmth, even affection, with which he and his State of the Union address were received by Congress were an indication that he may still be able to achieve quite a lot in his final year in the White House.

It is quite remarkable how he has managed to overcome such setbacks as the crisis over his attempt to swap weapons for hostages with Iran and the biggest stockmarket crash since World War II.

He lost a good deal of public confidence but not public affection. The best proof of political strength is that none of the Republican presidential candidates are running against the policies he has been advocating.

And none of the presidential candidates are holding the kind of public attention he still does.

He is still the most important Republican on the political stage. The intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty, the first substantial arms reduction treaty, he negotiated with Soviet general secretary Mikhail Gorbachev of course is a great boost to his prestige.

All the indications are that it is a highly popular achievement with the American public.

Ratification
The ratification proceedings of the treaty are the first item on the congressional agenda, in fact, they are already in full swing. The drama is unfolding on three different stages: the Senate foreign relations committee, the armed services committee and the select committee on intelligence.

The men who are setting the stage are Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci and the joint chiefs of staff.

They are all seeing eye to eye now that former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger chose to retire.

What is giving Reagan added strength in his last year is the fact that virtually all the radical conservatives have left the administration. It is not anymore an ideologically divided administration.

Carlucci, in particular, is engaged in quite a courageous

house cleaning in the Pentagon. He and Shultz operate on the same wave length.

Thus one of the ironies of the situation is that an administration that used the sharpest anti-communist rhetoric and initiated the biggest military build up in peace-time history, is now imploring a Senate, where the Democrats are in the majority, to put its seal on the most far-reaching treaty ever negotiated with the Soviet Union.

There is little doubt that the President has the support of a two-thirds majority of the Senate needed for ratification.

His problem will be to muster enough votes to stave off what are called "killer" amendments designed to force renegotiations of the treaty (which is impossible) or to destroy it. The leader among the "killer" is Senator Jesse Jones, the leading Republican on the Senate foreign relations committee.

Kissinger

The second most dangerous opponent of the treaty is not a member of Congress, it is former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. He argues that the treaty will weaken the West's nuclear deterrence and that in turn could lead to West Germany seeking to escape into neutrality. Paul Nitze, the senior State Department adviser on arms control, makes no bones about how furious he is with Kissinger's position.

Although Kissinger told him that he would not oppose ratification, because it would be catastrophic if Congress rejected another arms control treaty, he nevertheless provides the opposition with weighty enough arguments that could hurt ratification.

What is quite piquant about this conflict between Nitze and Kissinger is that it is Nitze who in the early seventies bitterly opposed the ratification of the Salt II Treaty which Kissinger had laboured hard to negotiate with the Soviets.

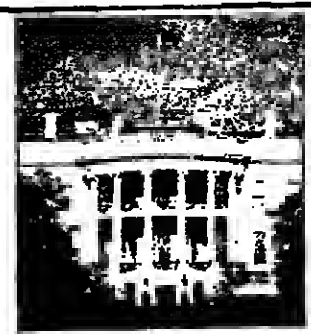
Kissinger and others have claimed that the European allies are secretly unhappy about the INF Treaty. But the most respected European leader, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, denied in interviews on American television that the allies are opposed to INF and that, speaking for herself, she strongly favoured the treaty's ratification.

Once again she is coming to the aid of her special friend, Reagan.

Visit
The highest event in Reagan's life this year will be his visit to the Soviet Union. It will certainly be

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



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RONALD REAGAN

the "biggest show on earth," as they used to say about Barnum Bailey's circus.

The President in his State of the Union message sounded surprisingly confident that progress with a 50 per cent reduction in strategic nuclear missiles could be achieved at the Moscow summit. Virtually all the technical experts tell me that this would be exceedingly difficult, but the President is said to pressure the bureaucracy to such an extent that some concrete result may emerge.

Who would have expected, even a year ago, that Reagan, who showed little interest in foreign affairs, would look for

his triumphs in this field and in negotiations with the Soviets.

The second most important battle with Congress will be over the protectionist trade bill. The President said in his State of the Union address that "protectionism is destructionism." But members of Congress are determined to pass a trade bill.

They are convinced that it would be politically popular and help them in the elections. Representative Richard Gephardt, the Democrat from Missouri, is a telling case.

He added an amendment to the House bill that is its most controversial feature. It is directed against Japan, South Korea,

Taiwan, West Germany and Italy. It threatens retaliation if countries fail to make yearly cuts in trade surpluses against the United States they gained through unfair trade practices.

He made it the centre piece of his presidential election campaign in Iowa and it has helped him to become the leading candidate in the first electoral test, the Iowa caucus, as it is called, because it does not involve the entire state's electorate, as does for instance, the New Hampshire primary election next month.

The President, however, has vowed to veto a protectionist trade bill. The problem Congress is facing, therefore, is to pass a bill that is sufficiently moderate for the President to sign it.

But moderation is not easy to achieve when so many members of Congress insist on their pet protectionist measures that matter in their own states.

Congressman Tom Foley, the influential chief whip of the House, told me that he did not think that Congress would be able to restrain itself enough to pass the kind of moderate bill, the President would not veto.

Silence

The big question, therefore, will be whether a protectionist trade bill, with all its dangerous side-effects, will come into being. Judging by Foley's prediction, it will not, nevertheless the outcome is very hard to predict, it may remain in doubt to the very last.

Those who remember the fervour, political and sentimental, with which Reagan extolled the independence of Taiwan, and the American commitment to the security of the island, will be utterly surprised by the calm, even silence that followed the death last week of President Chiang Ching-kuo, the son of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek.

One reason was that Taiwan's economic prosperity is the greatest success story of the Third World, achieved on its own terms.

Another, that the succession by the new President Lee Teng-hui went smoothly, in an exemplary way, without upsetting Taiwan's inner stability. He is expected to carry through the political and economic reforms Chiang Ching-kuo introduced, even though he is likely to face opposition to them from conservatives who distrust liberalisation.

Lee, who is a devout Christian, received a pledge of loyalty from the Minister of Defence and the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, which should

be reassuring to him. Most surprising, perhaps, was a message of official condolences from Beijing. Experts, familiar with Taiwan-China relations, go even so far as to say that the Beijing government will be sincerely sorry about Chiang's passing because it was he who very quietly established the basis for a rapprochement with Beijing.

Among other liberalisations he permitted exiled mainlanders for the first time to visit relatives in China.

The expectation among administration experts is that the rapprochement will continue unobstructively, trade and other contacts will grow, with Taiwan preserving a more autonomous position than Hong Kong.

Everything, more or less, will depend on the tendencies and decisions that will be taken by the Taiwanese themselves, for it is quite obvious that the United States will not despatch its Navy, as it once did under Presidents Truman and Eisenhower, to defend the independence of the island — after all, much against Reagan's outlook. President Richard Nixon recognised the claim of the communists that Taiwan is part of China.

Warned

The Reagan administration is not reasonably sure that the Chinese government is not selling anymore Silk worm missiles to Iran. Officials claim that they have protested against these sales as much as they could short of preventing the ships from reaching Iran.

Beijing, I understand, told American officials that they had to fulfil a contract they signed in 1985, that they have completed the deliveries agreed to and that they will not extend the contract. The Chinese also claim that they have urged the Iranians not to use the missiles against American ships and that they believe the Iranians will heed their appeal.

It may not be reassuring to those ships flying non-American flags, but at least it makes a confrontation between Iran and the United States, which could lead to complications in the US Congress, less likely.

In their approaches to the Chinese the Americans warned that these Silk worm missiles could put a great strain on the Sino-American relationship and lead to a greater involvement of the Soviet Union in the Gulf when both China and the United States have a strong common interest in keeping the Soviet Union out of Iran. They believe, I am told, that the Chinese got the message.

Traditional stand moderated

Soviets campaign to build new image in UN

By Victoria Graham

UNITED NATIONS, (AP): The Soviet Union, which once regarded this world forum with suspicion, has launched a vigorous public relations campaign to promote the United Nations, play a larger role and build a new Soviet image of cooperation.

Moscow is paying its back dues and calling for a UN naval peacekeeping force in the Gulf. Diplomatic observers say the Soviets have moderated their traditionally strident language against Israel.

While strongly opposing Israel's policies and its handling of recent violence in its occupied territories, the Soviet Union has devoted most of its effort to calling for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Moscow has gotten high marks for cooperation, compromise and a new style during the current session of the world body. But its peace offensive has faced skepticism in the West, and Western diplomats say its achievements fell short of its objectives.

However, Ambassador Alexander M. Belonogov, permanent Soviet UN representative, called the session highly successful and said his delegation would continue its pragmatic, non-polemical, high-profile politicking.

Forthcoming

The new Soviet approach, observers say, contrasts sharply with Soviet ideological intransigence and tough rhetoric of the past.

Canadian Ambassador Stephen Lewis called the new Soviet performance and attitude "a complete metamorphosis" and said, "it augurs well for future collaboration."

"The Soviets were forthcoming, compliant, anxious to please, willing to withdraw things, willing to listen, submit different clauses, listen things, offer amendments, offer original ideas and generally to participate more fully," he said in an interview.

"They were willing to do

almost anything to win favour, get measures adopted by consensus and play a larger role," Ambassador Lewis said. "But what is most telling about Soviet blandishments is that they were emphatically refuted on almost every single front."

In a major article in September, Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev said the United Nations should be at the forefront in renovating international relations, promoting disarmament and implementing "new political thinking."

To that end, Soviet diplomats have become much more accessible here and Soviet news conferences are common.

Paid

The Soviet Union paid its budget arrears of \$28 million, and has started paying back dues of \$197 million for peacekeeping forces. The United States, the largest UN contributor, still owes \$251 million and has been withholding funds because it considers the organisation to be inefficient and biased against the West.

Moscow cooperated with the other four permanent members of the Security Council who, in a rare show of unity, adopted a resolution demanding a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war. The Soviets have shown little enthusiasm since, however, for a second resolution that could call for an arms embargo against Iran.

The Soviet Union, which says it is eager to withdraw troops from Afghanistan, also supports UN mediation aimed at reaching a political settlement and military pullout.

The Soviet Union hasn't avoided setbacks at the United Nations. Moscow was outgunned overwhelmingly on crucial votes calling for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, criticising the human rights situation in Afghanistan and calling for withdrawal of Soviet-backed Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

The Soviets lobbied intensely to water down the Afghanistan resolution, but two more nations

voted for troop withdrawal than at the previous session.

"We are very satisfied with the results of the session," Belonogov said. "The percentage of decisions we could not support is very small... but I am worried by the trend that the United States is more and more out of step with the majority. The UN can perform its duties only with the widest possible cooperation among member states."

But US and Western diplomats said that the Soviet Union did not have many concrete achievements to show for its new style and intense lobbying.

Part

Robert Immenman, Minister-Counsellor of the US mission, said Moscow suffered a major setback when the General Assembly would not start implementing its proposed comprehensive new system of international peace and security. Western diplomats called it vague, unnecessary and an attempt to rewrite the UN charter.

But Belonogov asserted that the proposal, the flagship of Soviet UN diplomacy, now is firmly part of the UN agenda. A resolution approved by the General Assembly provides for further dialogue and a report by the secretary-general on the subject.

He said that major Soviet achievements included approval of numerous disarmament initiatives, including resolutions opposing the use of force in international relations and militarisation of outer space, calling for a ban on chemical weapons, negotiations on reducing armed forces and conventional weapons. The United States voted "no" on most of them, generally contending that the issues could be better discussed in other forums.

US Ambassador Vernon Walters, permanent US representative, says the Soviet Union has taken a first step in greater UN cooperation and unity on the Security Council. But he said: "We are waiting for the second step."

Female foetuses aborted

Indian obsession for sons

By Dev Varam

BOMBAY, (Reuters): Venkatesh sat on the edge of the seat, his fingers nervously tapping the table as the geneticist examined his pregnant wife.

Venkatesh had brought Gauri Bai 250 km (150 miles) to Bombay from their home in Sholapur to learn whether she was carrying a son or daughter before such pre-natal sex-determination tests are banned in private hospitals in India's Maharashtra state.

The ban is aimed at preventing the deliberate abortion of female foetuses, which Indian newspapers estimate happens 36 times a day in this country of 800 million where having sons is an obsession.

"We want a male child," 35-year-old Venkatesh said in an interview, adding irritably: "We already have four daughters and we can't afford to have one more."

Gauri Bai, speaking softly, said everything, including her in-laws and parents, wanted her to produce a son to carry on the family business and name.

Pressure

"In India women are under psychological pressure to produce a son," said Hema Purandare, the geneticist who runs the Birth Defects Centre in Bombay, one of about 250 such clinics in India's commercial capital.

Purandare said the proposed restrictions on amniocentesis tests announced by the Maharashtra government on New Year's Eve had intensified efforts by some couples to conceive in advance of the deadline, which officials say may be still six to 12 months away.

Study

Women's groups have welcomed the move, but say that unless India passes a similar law nationwide, clinics will just shift their operations to neighbouring states.

Amniocentesis was introduced in India in 1974 for detecting genetic disorders in unborn children, but increasingly it has been used for sex-testing and as the basis for deciding whether to have an abortion. Abortion on demand was legalised in 1971.

Government action followed a study by the Centre for Education and Documentation, a privately-funded group, which said that of 8,000 abortions performed at six city clinics all but one were of female foetuses.

According to Indian newspapers, between 1978 and 1983 about 78,000 female foetuses were aborted in India after such tests.

"It is the case of a good test getting a bad name," said gynaecologist Sharda Gogate. "To recent years it has fallen into the hands of unscrupulous and ill-qualified people."

Gogate blamed what he called "female foeticide" on the obsession for male children, which often makes Hindu couples turn to counsel "sadhus" or holy men.

"The woman is always blamed if she fails to conceive a male child. Men desert wives or marry for the second time only to have sons," Gogate said.

To traditional Hindus, the birth of a male child acquires a semi-religious aura. He will grow up to support the family, perpetuate its name, light his parents' funeral pyre when they die and perform rituals for their souls.

At least nine doctor has come out openly to criticise the proposed ban.

Datta Bai, who runs Bombay's biggest abortion centre and strongly supports the use of amniocentesis for sex-determination, said legislation would not stop the killing of female foetuses.

There was even a danger, he said, that more and more couples might resort to murdering unwanted baby girls after birth.

Investment

"A male child is like a long-term investment and couples in need of one would not mind spending money on tests to make sure of it," said Gogate. "In our own study of about 3,000 pregnant women, only one showed preference for a daughter."

The amniocentesis test, and abortion if wanted, cost 1,000 to 2,500 rupees (\$75 to 190) — a fraction of what many families would spend in marrying off a daughter.

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TODAY IN HISTORY

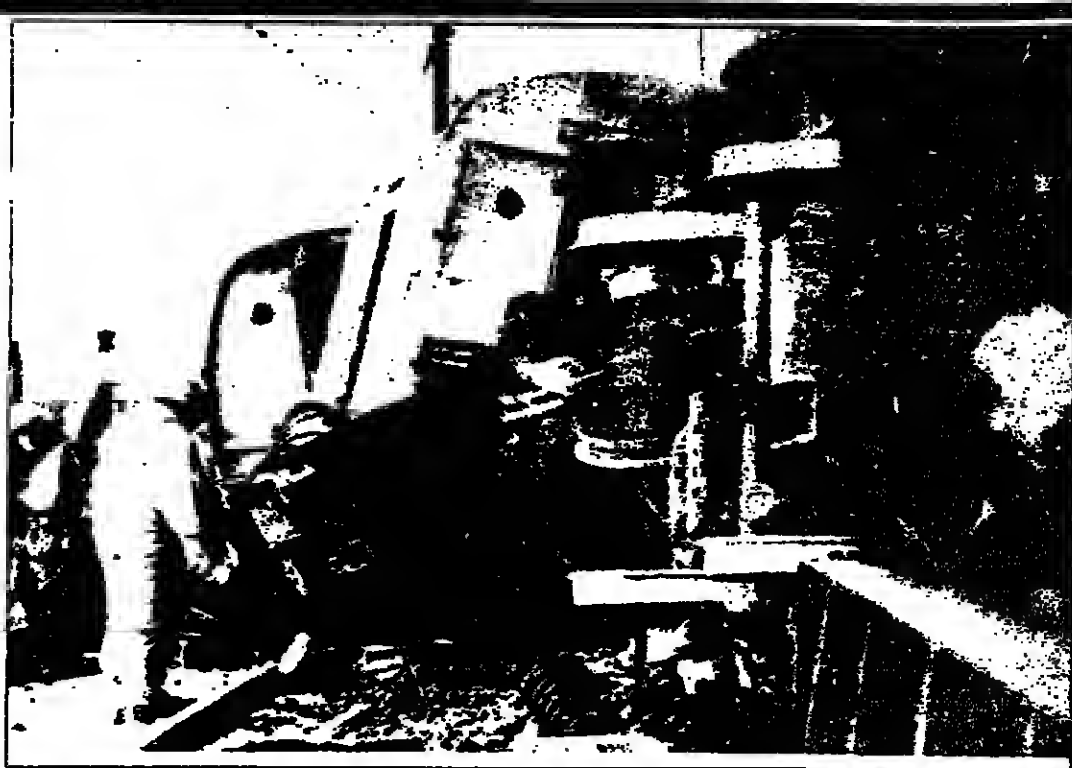
- 1531 — Holy Roman Emperor Charles V appoints his sister, Mary of Hungary, as regent of the Netherlands.
- 1596 — Decrees of Poleybray end War of the Catholics League.
- 1606 — British conspirator Guy Fawkes is executed.
- 1884 — Russians take Merv from Amir of Afghanistan.
- 1891 — Civil war begins in Chile.
- 1917 — Germany announces policy of unrestricted naval warfare in World War I.
- 1928 — Leon Trotsky is expelled from Soviet Union.
- 1943 — German troops surrender at Stalingrad in World War II.
- 1957 — Trans-Iranian pipeline, from Abadan to Tehran, is completed.
- 1958 — First US earth satellite, Explorer 1, is launched at Cape Canaveral in Florida.
- 1962 — Foreign ministers of Organisation of American States (OAS) vote to exclude Cuba from participating in the inter-American system.
- 1974 — Pan American Airways plane crashes on American Samoa, killing 95 of 101 people aboard.
- 1979 — China's first Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping says after meetings with US President Jimmy Carter and congressional leaders that Moscow is world's "main hotbed of war."
- 1987 — Philippines President Corason Aquino says her top officers will try to purge the military of "misguided elements."



FLOODS due to heavy rains leave a small hotel and caravan park submerged in water in the west of England on Friday. A winter storm moving in from the Atlantic has caused torrential rains throughout the area. (Reuter wirephoto)



EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak (right) hugs Vice-President George Bush after arriving at Bush's house in Washington for a breakfast meeting. (Reuter wirephoto)



A TECHNICIAN checks the damage to the wheel section of the 10 cars of the Amtrak train Nishtawi, which derailed in Chester, Pennsylvania, on Friday after colliding with a parked work train. (Reuter wirephoto)



TURKISH Prime Minister Turgut Ozal (right) and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu meet at the City Hall of Davos, Switzerland, during the World Economic Forum yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



CAPTAIN Clay Lacy points to a Boeing 747SP, the world's longest maximum range commercial airliner, as it arrives at Taipei airport yesterday to refuel before taking off to continue its flight. The plane later arrived back in Seattle, USA, setting the record for around-the-world flight.



THE Princess of Wales applauds her husband's speech yesterday in Australia where the Prince of Wales opened the Illawarra international performing arts centre in Wollongong, 80 km south of Sydney. (Reuter wirephoto)



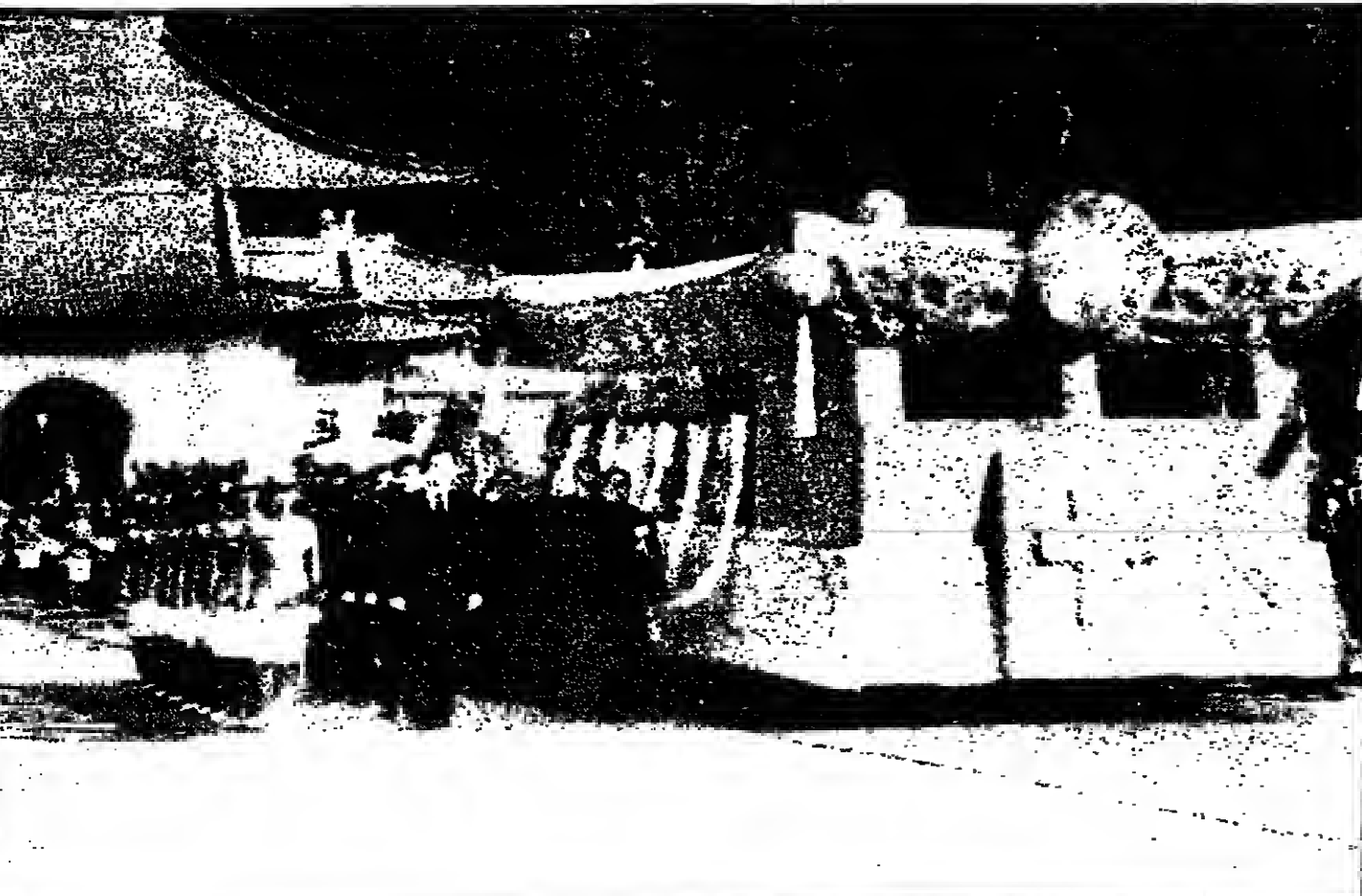
SOME 250 Arabs, mostly children, demonstrate outside the American Embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus, in support of the Palestinian uprising in Israeli occupied territories. (Reuter wirephoto)



PRINCE Norodom Sihanouk unexpectedly announced his resignation yesterday as the leader of the three-party coalition of Kampuchean forces fighting Vietnamese troops occupying his homeland. (Reuter wirephoto)



SRI LANKAN President Junius Jayawardene strikes a pensive pose while listening to a speech in Colombo. He has been under pressure from the opposition and the public to hold a general election this year. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE chrysanthemum-decorated hearse containing the coffin of the late Taiwan President Chiang Ching-Kuo leaves the Martyrs Shrine yesterday after a state funeral ceremony. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANDREA (left) son of Princess Caroline of Monaco (right) drives a train during the inauguration of the TGV line (high speed train) arriving in Monte Carlo yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Arab Times reporter joins the exclusive club

Rallies do not always have a happy ending

By Gail Seery

IT had to happen sooner or later, and as usual, it was my own big mouth that got me into trouble. When a friend told me that he and driver Harry Carr were going to enter this season's car rallies, but that he couldn't co-drive for the first rally because he'd be away, I immediately said, "Oh, I'll do it!" and forgot about it. On the Monday before the Kuwait rally, Harry phoned to tell me that he had a Mitsubishi Pajero, and that he needed a co-driver — all I needed was a helmet. I gave him the particulars for the entry form, even telling him my correct age, and put the phone down wondering what I'd got myself into.

I was pretty confident that I would not start the rally. The car was a completely standard model and a roll bar would have to be put in first, and I was certain that it would not be finished in time. It was.

Then, because there was no time for practice I was certain that caution and common sense would prevail and that we would not venture out. We did.

Start

My first rally activity involved applying for a license. Then there were medical tests to go through. I felt that the most important test should have been an intelligence test on the lines of, "are you going to compete in the rally?" If the reply was yes, the driver would fail the test. However, first thing the doctor did was check for a brain; he looked in both ears, and as he couldn't see light, decided that I must have one. This came as something of a surprise as it is genuinely assumed in rally circles that I left it at the bottom of Saeed Al Hajri's Porsche 911SCRS. The next test seemed to be primarily concerned with whether or not my wrists were correctly attached to my body. Clearly some unscrupulous competitors had in the past attached their hands with superglue.

The drivers' briefing came



Carr and Gail at the start.

next. Here we were told by Mike Allen, a fellow competitor that we had hit a further snag. "Your gearbox is broken," he said. I was unashamedly pleased by this information. Yet again it looked as if we wouldn't start. But my hopes were destined to be dashed once more. "They'll fix it in time," Harry assured me.

By this time I was getting the definite impression that this man was serious, and that we really were going to enter the rally. Why, we even had Hamoor as a sponsor. This gave me a splendid opportunity to trot out all my favourite fish jokes; "Oh Cod," "Whata hat-ful thing to say," and "I'm only entering for the halibut" (the less intelligent will have to think about that one). I suggested that if he really was determined to enter the rally, and silly enough to have me as his co-driver, it might be a good idea to get out and practice. Harry seemed to have a great deal more faith in my ability to read a road book than I had myself.

"Don't worry," he assured me. "We'll be able to see the tracks of the other cars." He explained that there was simply no way he could take time from work to practice at that time, but added that the RAC Rally is run blind, as if this would somehow make me feel better.

The following morning I drove out to the rally area in the hopes of seeing a driver I knew, and persuading him to take me

round. I was fortunate in bumping into Faez Chibeh (not literally) and he took me round stage two twice. This was a great help as there were several points where it would have been possible to go astray. Then we saw Eid Fahal about to go through the stage in the other direction, alone in his rally car, and I asked if he could take me through. We covered the stage in a horrifying short time and I rather suspected that Eid was showing off for my benefit. However, he was in full control of the car, and I came away with the impression that he is a very good driver indeed.

Problems

That was all the practice either Harry or myself had. The rest of the day was spent waiting, either at Lester Featherstone's garage, or at the KT Club. There were more problems. First the gearbox was finished, but reverse gear was unavailable and then the reverse gear was perfectly OK — so long as the Pajero was permanently in four wheel drive. We finally cleared formalities at six o'clock the night before the rally and I duly went home to panic.

On the morning of the rally I asked myself what on earth I thought I was doing. "A woman of my age shouldn't be getting herself mixed up in this sort of thing," I told myself without any noticeable result.

Waiting for the rally to start was one of the longest hours of



"Why do I do these things?" ponders Gail

my life, but finally, when we were underway, I began to get control of my feelings. I had been around rallies long enough to know what I was supposed to do, and as far as that was concerned, I felt I already had two main personality traits which suited me to the job I had to perform; I'm almost obsessively punctual, and I'm extremely bossy.

The first time round stage one was demanding. The stage is very rough, but we were able to get round mainly by following the tracks end with occasional verification in the road book. Any difficult places where we could have gone wrong contained passage controls, so there was no real problem. By the end of the stage we had almost caught the car in front. And by the time I was handing the time cards to the marshalls at the end of the stage, I had already thoroughly enjoyed myself.

Realise

The next stage was a little easier, as I already had a concept of the route and was able to describe sections of the track ahead to Harry. This time we did indeed catch the car ahead and overtook it. There was a camel on the track — we went to the left and the other car went to the right; when we regained the track we were comfortably in front.

The Hamoor Pajero was running well, but Harry was complaining about a loss of power,

which he suspected stemmed from the tyres. We duly removed the back wheels from the service Pajero, and sure enough the situation was much better and we had much more speed at our disposal. Stage three saw us reducing our previous time by six seconds, and nearly coming to grief on the very first dip of the stage, where we didn't realise there was a drop. We righted ourselves and made the mental note not to do it so fast the next time. The first time through we had been forced to slow there by a car crossing the track, and had been travelling much more slowly. Once again we had caught and passed the car ahead by the end of the stage — this time the driver tried not to let us through, but there was no way they could out-drive Harry on the straight.

We continued to cut our times, and on the third time through stage 1 we cut nine seconds off our first time, and on stage 2 we cut seventeen seconds. At regrouping we were eleventh out — a good placing for a standard jeep competing against more experienced teams and more powerful engines.

Stage 7 was run in reverse direction, and once again we were in effect driving blind. Stage 8 was equally fraught particularly as we were overtaking much faster, and bouncing about till my shoulder ached where the seat belt rubbed. It was coming into one

of my passage controls that my seat belt simply worked free, and I struggled to refasten it as it was an inertial reel belt and simply didn't want to co-operate. We missed the boards in the confusion and had to stop while I refastened my belt losing about ten to 15 seconds. I was shortly to be extremely glad that I'd refastened it, and checked it.

After regrouping we were driving immediately ahead of Josef Miskulung and Klaus Scwingschloegl in a Nissan 240 RS, one of the more powerful cars in the rally. The only reason we were in front of them at all was that they had hit problems on the first stage and had dropped back to last position. Their ability can be gauged by the fact that they had climbed back to 12th position in the next five stages, and ultimately finished eighth despite further gearbox problems.

Responded

We were aware that they would be able to catch and overtake us on that 16km stage, as there is no way that our completely standard and second hand Pajero could out run a factory rally car. Before the previous stage they had been joking with us, "Remember to let us through," they had told us. "Remember we have a lady on board," we responded. "We'll jump, and you can drive through underneath," suggested Harry.

Even so it was only within sight of the flying finish boards that I glanced back and spotted them coming up behind us. Harry felt that we could beat them to the finish. Josef said later that he could see that we were racing and didn't try to overtake us, moving over to keep as much distance between us as possible.

He was a good deal wiser than we were. We were running blind on that stage, as it was the first time we had covered it in reverse direction. At the very end of the stage, within ten or 15 metres of the boards, there was a major bomb — later I was to watch Ali Wazzan fly over it with his usual panache.



Seconds before the roll.

I'm told we landed, then flipped. I can remember being aware that we were rolling, but I had no time to feel afraid. All I was aware of was falling first to my side, then right over to Harry's side, with the windscreen breaking but not, fortunately, shattering completely. We were bounced up and down and my head hit the roof at least twice.

Then almost before I knew it we were back on the wheels, with Abdul Nasser Younes, apparently more shaken than us, at the door, asking if we were alright.

I'm told that I promptly picked up the precious time cards I'd unnaturally dropped, and said, "Right, I've got the cards," Harry restarted the engine and we finished the stage — in the sixth fastest time. That time was almost two minutes faster than our first time traversing the stage in the other direction, despite the delays and alarms.

Then we were pulled out of the car. I had only one or two tiny scratches on my hand and arm, but Harry had cut his hand and was bleeding. They told us that the rear axle was broken and that we could not continue. I can remember being annoyed and disappointed that we would not be able to finish, when a decent result — eighth or ninth, was within our grasp.

Assumed

Harry had been sucking his fist to clean the wound — this meant that his mouth was full of blood, and our helpers, including the calm and comforting efficient Ali Birami assumed that he was more badly hurt than he was.

We were shepherded to our support team, which had been efficiently co-ordinated by Lester Featherstone, where, once again we were questioned

as to our injuries. I waited a little, and then, seeing that the lead cars had finished the stage for the final time and the rally was almost over I walked back to the control van.

All the drivers and co-drivers who have become my friends over the season were very concerned for our welfare — the news had travelled so quickly that several had been told we had rolled before starting stage 10. Ottmar Lange said, "Congratulations! Now you're a real rally person!"

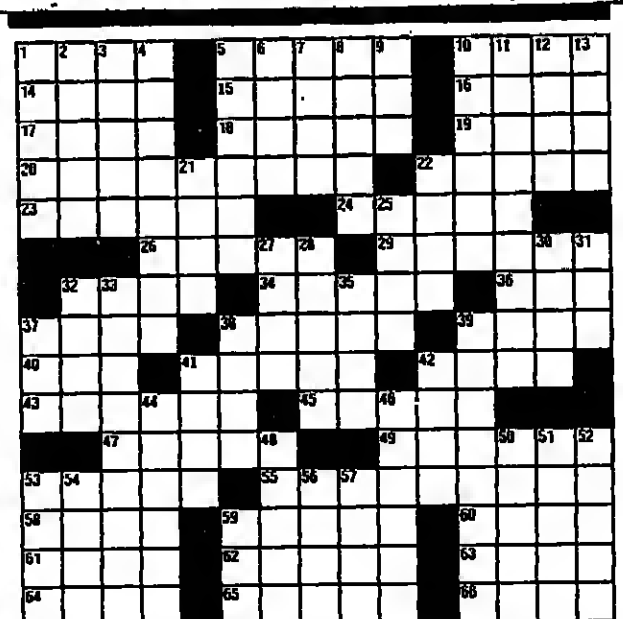
The saddest and most galling thing for both Harry and myself was that when the service team went to the Pajero after the rally, it took them under ten minutes to get it going; the axle was not broken, the rear wheel was bent, and whole vehicle was badly battered. We could probably have completed the rally.

In the meantime, a few people told me that they had the roll recorded on film. I'd like to remind them that I'm very much looking forward to seeing it.

Even seconds after the accident I was certain that I would want to co-drive again. I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and felt that I could be useful as a co-driver. However, I would not want to venture out again without a full harness type belt, and adequate practice. Had we covered the route in advance we would have known about that last dip, and our pace notes would have urged caution.

As it is, as I write this two days after the event, I am stiff and bruised and am hobbling about like an old woman. Harry phoned yesterday to make sure I was alright. "Would you do it again?" he asked. "Yes," I replied without hesitation. "You are daft," he said. Most people already knew that.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Con game
 - Type of cross or knight
 - Do the backstroke
 - Happy sounds
 - John or Maureen
 - Lawyer's concern
 - in one's belly
 - Posts
 - Locality
 - Schedule
 - The color of money
 - Napped noisily
 - Wife of Abraham
 - One of the Forsytes
 - Bruce and Sebastian
 - Earl Darr
 - Biggers' sleuth
 - Like some university walls
 - Swiss canton
 - Backyard refresher
 - Charlie McCarthy's nemesis
 - Consumer
 - Australian nonfyer
 - Warning sound
 - Toddler's perch
 - Used-car deal
 - Implied
 - Omit
 - Reptar
 - Rider's garb
 - Silver and china
 - Black wood
 - Farmlike
 - Andy's pal
 - Dies —
 - Worship
 - Make over
 - Squallars
 - More recent
 - Scott decision
- DOWN**
- Blind features
 - Russichidaway
 - "Remember the —"
 - Fabric
 - Hair dressing
 - Captain of the Pequod
 - Jack and Jill's container
 - City on the Rhone
 - Cruces
 - Egyptian beetle
 - Storage building
 - Expression of understanding
 - Nasty
 - Coastal flyer
 - Formar H. S. senior
 - Emulated — Mr. Lendl
 - Pinta's sister ship
 - Chris of the courts
 - Joyce Kilmar subject
 - Knightly title
 - Arrive
 - River residence
 - "— la Douce"
 - Each
 - Winter vehicle
 - Adverse
 - Landed
 - High flyer
 - Straightens
 - Phone user
 - Musical composition
 - Giver of titles, in a way
 - Wear away
 - Do over the lawn
 - Descendant
 - "East of Eden" heroine
 - "Pretty maids all in —"
 - Leafless
 - Operated

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SAVES BACON ESP
CLONE ABOUT ALL
OLIVERNORTH SOD
RELIN RNS STEP
NEAR SITS ACE
OATIS SPARSE
DOWNFALL HEREIN
AVE FREEDOM GRO
OESPOT OLIVERGES
ENTERS CENE
PAO PEEL BARE
SHOT SOX ELUOER
LEI SOUTHOAKOTA
URN ULTRA DEPTIS
ROT ESSAY ESTIE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARRIF
GOLDWATER'S RULE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 7

♥ Q 9 7 6

♦ K 10 6

♣ K 10 8 6 2

WEST

♠ A K 9 8 4

♥ 10 5 2

♦ Q 7 5 4

♣ 5

EAST

♠ 10 5 3

♥ J 4

♦ J 9 2

♣ A 9 7 4

SOUTH

♠ J 6 2

♥ A K 8 3

♦ A 8 3

♣ Q J 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♥ 1 ♠ 3 ♥ 3 ♠

4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣

How do you treat a lead out of turn? Tournament director Harry Goldwater offered a theory that has become known in the trade as Goldwater's Law: "When you get a lead out of turn, accept it. If the player isn't good enough to know whose lead it is, what makes you think he knows enough to make the right lead?" Declarer ignored this sage advice, and paid the price.

North-South bought a competi-

tive auction at four hearts. As the cards lie, four spades would go down only one trick, but that is only because of the fortuitous lie of the diamond suit.

Against four hearts, East led the three of spades when West was opening lead. Declarer did not like the look of his three spade losers, so he exercised his rights and barred a spade lead.

The lead oow reverted to West, who led the five of clubs. The play was soon over. East won the ace of clubs and returned the nine of clubs, a suit preference signal showing a spade reentry, for his partner to ruff. West dutifully underled his ace-king of spades, so East was able to win the queen and give his partner a second club ruff. That was just enough to defeat the contract.

Observe that, with a spade lead from either defender, the contract cannot be defeated. Even if the defenders shift to a club at trick two, West can get only one club ruff—he has no way to get back to East for another ruff. So the defenders can get no more than three tricks.

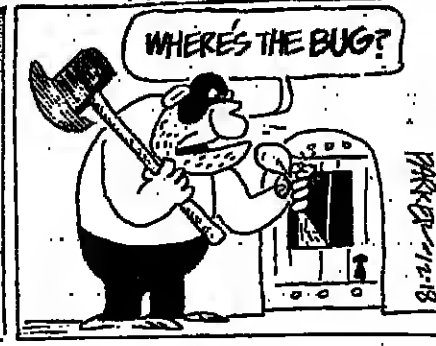
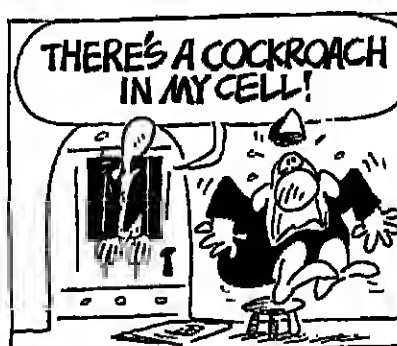
Harry Goldwater has been around the game for a long time. If you ignore his advice, you deserve to pay the piper.



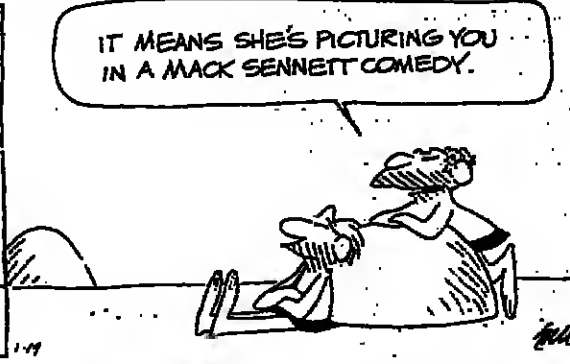
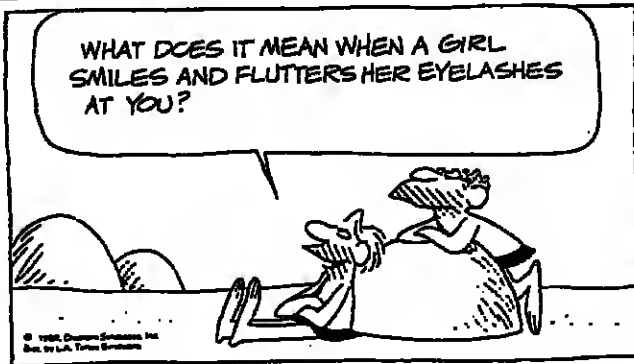
"He always keeps me in the style to which I'd become accustomed ... poverty."

THE WIZARD OF ID IS NOT A WIZARD

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will not be at your best today. You should take an offer or proposal seriously. You should not make up your mind on the spur of the moment. Be less insistent.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not pay attention to idle chatter. Do not allow yourself to become dejected. A promise you have made should be kept. Be resilient.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will not be as much loved as you would wish to be. You should not expect everything to be smooth and easy. Try to avoid feeling resentful. Be moderate.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will have plenty of good ideas but not all of them will be quite practical just now. The situation is intense and you must take care not to become too excited. You should follow a balanced diet if you want to keep slim.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

There will be a little confusion but you will be able to sort things out. Try to forget about problems at work for the day. Do not become too absorbed in a hobby. Be realistic.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

The influence of the Moon and Venus will help you to make progress with a personal project. You will have to keep your wits about you.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Some initial confusion will soon be overcome. You will be pleased with the way things are going. Make sure you do not eat anything that might not agree with you. Be resolute.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will need all the common-sense you can summon up. You should try to avoid getting into an argument. What seemed like a good idea will turn out to be nothing of the kind. Be generous.



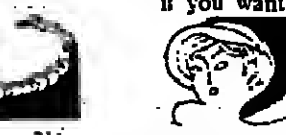
Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Circumstances are prevalently favourable to you but you should not allow yourself to be carried away. All kinds of exaggerations and extremes are to be avoided.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should do all you can to avoid creating tension. Do not try to maintain control. You will tend to be argumentative and you ought to keep away from controversy.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

The Moon's influence will help you to face up to reality. You should do all you can to avoid complications. Make sure you do not do anything that could be injurious to your health. Be sensible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

The favourable influence of the Sun and Mercury will help you to find the right approach. A few hours in the open air will do you good. Do not be tempted to spend more than you can really afford.

Government soldiers fight hunger, disease and rebels

By Joel Palacios

MANILA (Reuters): Battle-hardened soldiers hunting communist rebels in Philippine jungles are threatened by hunger and disease as well as guerrilla ambushes.

"Malaria is the number one killer and the worst enemy of the soldier," said marine sergeant Antonio Llam, who has spent most of his 12 years in uniform fighting the communists.

"The majority of our casualties die of disease."

No figure is available on the number of soldiers who have died of disease in the 19-year-old guerrilla war. Officials say military statistics show only the names of those killed in battle.

Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos said on television early this month, when he was still armed forces chief of staff, that 3,700 people died in fighting in 1987 — a daily average of 4.6 rebels, three soldiers and 2.6 civilians.

Llam told Reuters: "Only a few die in ambushes because mostly it is the supply runs that get attacked. But in an ambush you have only a five-per-cent chance of surviving."

He was speaking inside Army headquarters in a Manila suburb where the Marines and Scout Rangers, the elite special forces combating the insurgents, are based.

Weapon

The 6,200-strong Marines and the 2,000 "quick-reaction" Scout Rangers are the government's major weapon against the Communist New People's Army (NPA) which has been waging guerrilla war since 1969.

"The hard life in the jungle makes our operations against the enemy difficult," said major Talib Hassan, who was awarded the distinguished conduct star in 1978 for gallantry in action.

He said soldiers could starve in the jungle because they might bring provisions for only a few days but an operation could then go on for weeks.

"There are times when you cannot take off your boots for weeks and many soldiers cannot walk after a long operation because of foot disease," Hassan said.

Scout Rangers, who operate in small units on search and

destroy missions in the jungle, say strong discipline is needed to overcome the hazards of disease, fatigue and hunger.

Rations

Soldiers are given field rations but many would rather wait until they find rice, the staple food in the Philippines.

Lieutenant-Colonel Romeo Lim, Scout Rangers chief of staff, said: "My units can last 14 straight days just eating crackers."

He said soldiers were negligent about taking anti-malaria tablets because they tasted unpleasant and were difficult to swallow.

"Any commander worth his salt should line up his men every day during an operation and pop anti-malaria tablets into their mouths," Lim said.

On the fighting itself, Lim said the NPA had no formal combat training but "lots of experience in battle. You cannot beat them unless you send well-trained men."

Scout Ranger Sergeant Rodrigo Malubay, who has been recommended for the Medal of Valor, the highest combat citation, said: "They are good in ambush but in



Soldiers slide head-first down a wooden wall, part of an obstacle course during Special Action Forces training.

unless the government can stop villagers from giving them support, this war can go on for a long, long time."

Malubay added, "but

Filipino labour export is major dollar earner

By CL. Leones

PHILIPPINE emigration, begun at the turn of the century and continued right up to the end of the American colonial rule in 1945, Filipinos migrated to the United States, particularly Hawaii, California, and Alaska, to work as pickers of apples, oranges, grapes, and pineapples. This is a continuing phenomenon.

With an economy unable to provide the jobs for a growing labour force, there was a second wave of migration after World War II. This time by war veterans, their families and relatives of earlier migrants who had become American citizens or had gained permanent residence status. From 1945 to 1965, an estimated 2.8 million Filipinos migrated to US.

What we are witnessing today is the third wave, which covers the years 1966 to the present. While the US has always been a major destination, the construction boom in the Arab countries, fueled by the petro dollars, caused a significant shift in the concentration of migrant workers to the Middle East. From a mere 1,863 in 1971, the number of Filipino overseas contract workers processed by the POEA peaked to 434,207 in 1983. The figure was down to 414,461 in 1986, partly because of a fall in prices, but significant enough to earn for the Philippines close to \$700 million every year. For a country allotting nearly half of its annual revenue to pay off \$28 billion in foreign debts, that's not peanuts.

Industry

The manpower export industry has grown over the years and, with over two million Filipino workers now overseas, is considered one of the country's major industries. A slow-down in construction projects in OPEC countries may have reduced the number of overseas contract workers to these places but growing demand in Asia, Europe, Africa, and the other parts of the world is slowly filling the void.

There has been a steady market for Filipino entertainers and domestic helpers, for example, in Japan, Hongkong, and Singapore. An overview of the industry by Eduardo A. Palahria, president of the Philippine Association of Service Exporters, Inc., is encouraging.

"In the 70s, the demand for unskilled and semi-skilled workers in the Middle East was remarkably high. As the projects were completed, however, the demand shifted to highly skilled workers. To meet this new market demand, manpower export planners must review their programmes and targets."

The truth is that more importers now prefer workers with multi-skills and the best way to meet this new market is for us to upgrade worker skills. We have to do this if we are to keep our competitive edge in the international manpower market.

Exports

The book notes, labour export is a major dollar-earner and a big boost for the Philippines, with its staggering \$28 billion debt and a huge army of unemployed. Even so, these skilled workers — doctors, nurses, and engineers — are depriving the country of its most precious asset, skilled labour. This deprivation, furthermore, is already being felt in some of the most important sectors of the economy and that this will have a negative effect in the long run. "Although dollars are earned from the labour trade," it adds, "the long-term costs are likely to outweigh any benefits."

Not so, says, PASSEI VP and head of the Philippine Personnel Centre Jay Fidel A. Francisco. "Our options are clear: Either we keep our skilled workers idle and unproductive at home or we send them wherever they're needed to earn the foreign exchange we need. Skills, after all, are a renewable resource."

"By supplying the world's manpower demand," adds the 27-year-old executive, "there's a good chance we will soon have the industries that will, in turn, create the jobs for all our skilled workers who, thanks to our superior educational system, we can turn out almost at will. Manpower export will earn the dollars needed by our industries which, in time, will create the jobs for all our skilled workers."



Face-lift for Metro Manila

PRESIDENT Aquino wants to wipe out the garbage dump called "Smokey Mountain" in Balut, Tondo. But that's easier said than done because of some 20,000 scavengers who live on it.

As part of its ambitious long-term plan to remove all open dump sites in the metropolis, the government also intends to relocate the scavengers to cleaner surroundings and provide them with other ways to make a living.

Metro Manila acting governor Elicia Cruz said that the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Programme, a product of three-month study, envisions a "clean and sanitary" Metro Manila free of dumpsites in the next three years.

The dumpsites, Cruz added, will be replaced with "sanitary landfills" in Carmona, Cavite and another one in the eastern part of Manila, near the Manila Bay.

The plan involves a drastic improvement in collection of garbage, the replacement of open garbage trucks with "compactor trucks" and the relocation of scavengers, Cruz said.

The programme also calls for the establishment of livelihood projects for the thousands of scavengers who are bound to lose their means of livelihood with the removal of the "Smokey Mountain" and other open dumpsites, he added.

The project costs \$100 million, which is expected to come from existing government budget and foreign organizations like the World Bank.

Originally, Cruz said, the plan was intended for implementation over five years, but the President "wanted to shorten it." He said Aquino particularly wanted the "Smokey Mountain" removed in two years.

The area will be levelled off to give way to either a park or an industrial community, Cruz added.

He said that the government has prepared a comprehensive programme for scavengers like skills training.

At least 10 per cent of the scavengers will be relocated yearly. Government housing projects will accommodate them, Cruz said.

Manila aims for 20 markets

By Margie Quimpo

THE Philippines government will not adopt new policies to increase exports but will concentrate on 20 major markets with sufficient purchasing power.

The expected recession in the US will have only a minimal effect on the country's exports, officials and businessmen said.

According to trade and industry undersecretary Raul A. Boncan, the 20 markets include US, members of the European Economic Community, Japan, Canada and the Middle East.

Efforts to tap new markets are hindered by shortage of commercial attaches overseas, said Boncan. Although the

Centre for International Trade Expositions and Missions Inc. and the Philippine International Trading Corporation have been helping promote exports, the country remains largely dependent on Filipino commercial attaches to push export products.

Reason

At present there are only 22 commercial attaché posts as compared with 63 in 1981. The reduction was made due to the devaluation of the peso. Another reason was the return on investment in the form of demand generated for the country's products had been inadequate.

Boncan said six new posts will be created this year with the approval of President Aquino. The budget will be increased

from 45 million pesos to 140 million pesos.

Commercial Attaches will be sent to Kobe, Osaka, Japan; Brussels, to cope with EEC countries, one to Saudi Arabia or Abu Dhabi, Italy and Germany.

Exporters, particularly those in the small and medium scale sector, have received assistance from the Bureau of Export Trade Promotions.

The Foreign Trade Service Corps made a total of 2,502 direct sales calls to overseas buyers. It completed 82 strategic market researches and matched 1,440 exporters with foreign buyers.

The final industry reports expect the country's exports to be between \$5.5 billion to \$5.7 billion.

Profile of an upcoming singer

WHEN Janno Gibbs started singing on TV, a well-known singer insisted that Janno was just lip-synching to established singer's tapes. The confusion was understandable, since Janno didn't sound like a tyro even when he was just starting out.

Years later, Janno has firmly established himself as the young male singer most likely to carve his own niche in local entertainment.

This is because Janno's voice is different from the usual untuned voices that other young singers have. Stylistically, too, Janno is more adventurous than most other young singers, who are prone to following the straight and narrow of established hits.

Assets

One of Janno's liabilities is his relative lack of height, but his fans don't seem to regard that as a major catastrophe. Janno's other assets — the comic streak in him, and his acting ability — are sometimes liabilities as well, since they



Janno Gibbs: adventurous

confuse the public as to what Janno's particular bent is to performance really is.

Music lovers find it difficult to take Janno seriously as a singer when they see him being given the teenybopper treatment on TV and in the fan magazines, due to his team-up with the likes of Marilyn Reynes and Bing Loyzaga.

Of course, these diversions contribute to Janno's popularity with the mass audience, but they muddle up

the mystique associated with a serious singer.

Janno's ability as a comedian is similarly at odds with his being a singer and being part of a movie "loveteam."

Thus, Janno may be said to enjoy an "embarrassment of riches" as far as ability and aptitude are concerned. The time will come when he will have to choose which talent to highlight, to give his career a clearer, more definite thrust.

"Poor" Marcos

HONOLULU: Deposed Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos has said that he is "almost penniless" even as the Aquino regime announced the recovery of some \$56 million in two years during a worldwide search for wealth he and his associates allegedly plundered while in power.

Marcos said his legal and living expenses are paid for by "gifts and loans from supporters, including Filipino labourers who come here (and) sometimes give us \$200 to \$300."

"We have borrowed for our legal fees as well as for our living expenses," Marcos said. "But right now we are penniless."

Marcos and his family have been accused of robbing the country of \$10 billion during his 20 years in power that ended in an uprising in February 1986.

The 70-year-old former president spoke haltingly during an interview, and aides prompted him to complete his sentences.

Marcos, however, declined to name the donors or divulge his legal and medical expenses.



Incentives to athletes

The first Filipino gold medalist in the 24th Olympic Games in Seoul will get a house worth a cool one million pesos, plus an additional million in cash.

The prize was announced by a Manila-based businessman to give an "incentive" to Seoul-bound athletes, currently training for the Games.

The elusive gold may be won by amateur boxers, who have won the only medals so far in the Olympiad — a silver by Anthony Villanueva in the Tokyo Games and a bronze by his father, Cely, eight years earlier.

The Philippine Olympic Committee has approved the inclusion of 26 athletes in the national team to the Seoul Olympics, including the reigning Asian sprint queen Lydia de Vega and boxers Leopoldo Cantancio and Leopoldo Serrantes. They are training under Gintong Alay.

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Marcos reigns in home province

LAOAG: Ferdinand Marcos still reigns here in his home province two years after a popular revolt sent him fleeing to Hawaii, according to the results of Monday's local elections, analysts say.

Diehard Marcos supporters, including an alleged military coup plotter, now jailed in Manila, almost swept the recently held local elections in Ilocos Norte province, unofficial tallies based on official returns showed.

Rodolfo Fariñas, former mayor of this provincial capital, publicly claimed victory as governor over Mameela Abian, an 80-year-old woman backed by President Aquino.

Supporters

Rolando Abadilla, a jailed former colonel who headed a secret police unit for Marcos and is now held by the Army in Manila for allegedly leading attempts to topple President Aquino, was way ahead of his rivals for vice governor.

Marcos supporters had captured about 70 per cent of mayoral seats in the 22 towns of this province north of Manila, according to unofficial returns

tabulated by the local press ahead of the slow official count. Ilocos Norte is the only province where there was a complete slate fielded in Monday's local elections by Marcos' Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, now virtually decimated elsewhere in the country.

Marcos remains an invisible but powerful influence here in Ilocos Norte, a coastal garlic and tobacco-producing province where he was born and started his political career as a congressman in 1949, analysts say.

His father Mariano had been a prominent local politician, and towards the end of his rule Marcos' children held the highest political posts here.

Victory

The Fariñas-Abadilla victory has heartened Marcos supporters among the Ilocanos, as the local population is called, and fuelled hopes that the former ruler will return, either to retire or to mount another bid for power.

During the campaign Fariñas had pledged to bring Marcos back to the Philippines if only to face his accusers and then retire.

Last year, when three coup attempts were launched in Manila against Ms Aquino, government troops were reinforced and the airport runway was at one point covered with rocks to prevent any aircraft carrying Marcos from landing.

Ties

Social scientists say that in a country where ethnic ties are generally stronger than national identity, the Ilocanos are known as being particularly loyal to their own group.

When he was in power, Marcos surrounded himself with Ilocano generals and politicians. Ilocanos still predominate in the post-Marcos bureaucracy and armed forces.

Marcos built two replicas of Manila's Malacanang presidential palace in Ilocos Norte in the 1970's, but rarely visited them due to poor health and a busy schedule.

While in his villa overlooking Honolulu, Marcos can count on one thing to make him feel at home — a large Ilocano population, the product of migrations early this century to the pineapple plantations.

Food poisoning at wedding reception

GUESTS of newly-wed Richard and Lorenza Mamaril-Gloria were too polite to complain to the couple that something must be wrong with the food served them at the wedding reception in a Chinese restaurant in Quezon City.

But there was no way to hold back truth. Even Richard, 19, and Lorenza, 21 had to be taken to a hospital for possible food poisoning.

Twenty-two of the Glorias' 100 guests were taken to two hospitals the other night after suffering from stomach-ache, itchiness, swollen faces and vomiting apparently from food taken at the Kowloon House along West Avenue.

Police said most of the guests developed the symptoms.

The Glorias and most of the 22 guests taken in the East Avenue Medical Center and the Capital Medical Center have been discharged after receiving first aid treatment.

Food served at the reception

included bird's nest soup, fried chicken, pork Mandarin, sweet and sour lapulapu, pancit canton and fried rice.

Annalicia Francisco, a guest, told reporters everybody was hesitant to complain about the food, fearing they might offend their hosts.

"At first nobody was complaining," Francisco said. "Then I told my seamstress that I was beginning to feel a little numbness on my cheeks. She told me she was feeling some stomach ache."

The Quezon City health office said it will send health inspectors to Kowloon House to investigate and make a report to the police.

Dr Greg Manlueta, sanitary inspection chief, said if the restaurant is found to have violated Presidential Decree 856 or the Sanitation Code, the restaurant would be ordered closed.

Reynaldo Santos, manager of the restaurant, could not be reached for comment on the incident.

Aquino's popularity increases

THE Press Office at the Malacanang Palace has released the results of a survey showing President Corason Aquino enjoying an approval rating of 66 per cent.

The survey was conducted on Jan 14-15 in Metro Manila among a cross-section of adults over 18 years of age and above. Of the 300 polled, half were men.

Aquino's press secretary, Benigno, said that Mrs Aquino's approval rating rose from 57 per cent in October to 66 per cent this month. Those who disapproved of her were 31 per cent while three per cent did not vote.

Those who expressed their approval cited Aquino's "good administration, integrity, economic recovery and improved peace in the country."

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Fed likely to act to lower interest rates

WASHINGTON, Jan 30, (Reuters): The US Federal Reserve will probably act soon to loosen credit slightly so that interest rates continue to fall, the Washington Post reported today.

It quoted sources knowledgeable about the Fed's plans as saying the Central Bank would loosen credit slightly in response to recent signs that the US economy was about to enter a period of weak growth.

The newspaper quoted a US official as saying the Fed wanted "to make sure this is a slowdown and not a deterioration" in US economic growth.

The Fed therefore was "more poised toward ease than before."

Any move to lower US interest rates further would be limited because the Fed believed fears of a US recession were overblown, the paper said.

It did not say what action the Fed might take but noted the Central Bank could lower interest rates by increasing the money supply to banks and increase them by reducing the money supply.

US officials had no comment on the report.

US interest rates have been moving sharply lower in the past two weeks, with yields on 30-year treasury bonds falling to 8.5 per cent from 9 1/8 per cent in that period.

Mortgage rates have moved to the 10 per cent level in recent days and the veterans administration on Friday reduced to 9.5 per cent the maximum interest rate on home loans it will insure.

Mobil and Shell report big fourth quarter profits

NEW YORK, Jan 30, (Reuters): Two big US oil companies, Mobil and Shell, said yesterday that their earnings rose substantially in the final three months of last year.

Mobil Corp, the second biggest US oil company, said its earnings rose 92 per cent in the fourth quarter, due to higher crude oil prices, increased natural gas sales and strong results from its chemical and retail chain store subsidiaries.

Higher crude prices and chemical earnings helped Shell Oil Co, the nation's sixth-largest oil company, to a 71 per cent rise in fourth-quarter profits. Shell is a subsidiary of Royal Dutch/Shell Group based in the Hague, Netherlands.

Earnings
On Tuesday, Exxon Corp, the world's largest oil company, as well as a number of other petroleum firms, announced higher earnings, aided by a rise in crude prices.

Shell said its fourth-quarter oil rose to \$436-million from \$254-million in the same period last year. Sales rose to \$3.89 billion from \$4.51 billion.

'87 best year for Dubai aluminium

ABU DHABI, Jan 30, (Opecna): Dubai's aluminium smelter (Dubai) last year produced a record 155,026 tonnes of high quality aluminium billets.

Reporting improvement in Dubai's production and sales, a source at the company described 1987 as the best year since it went onstream in 1979.

Japan continued to be the biggest customer accounting for 46 per cent of the company's sales, followed by the United States 19 per cent, Taiwan seven per cent, South Korea seven per cent. Up to 9,062 tonnes was being marketed domestically within the United Arab Emirates.

For the first time, there were new customers from Finland, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

The company increased the number of UAE nationals working for it from 94 in 1986 to 131 last year.

Petrochemical plants

PARIS, Jan 30, (Opecna): Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian petrochemical plants have been rated "as good as the best European refineries." The French oil industry's Union Chamber said the plants had "plenty of raw materials, the cheapest one can get."

Chairman Jean-Louis Breuille-Jarrie spoke earlier this week of "the threat posed by imports of refined products from member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council."

Trade action affects \$10b in goods

Loss of US trade concessions seen as unfair

HONG KONG, Jan 30, (Reuters): The US decision to cut special trade concessions for Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore was seen today as both unfair and mistaken by officials in the region.

Government officials in Hong Kong said the move would send the wrong signals to Washington's trading partners.

In Seoul, Trade and Industry Minister Rha Woong-Bae said his government regretted the move and was considering filing a suit with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Decision
In Singapore, where American companies account for over 50 per cent of exports to the United States, the decision was seen as a tactical error.

A senior economic official in Taiwan said the move would not hurt the island too badly because its major trading rivals would be affected equally.

"We will be running from the same starting point. There is nothing to be afraid of," Chao Yao-Tung, chairman of the Council for Economic Planning and Development, told reporters.

The Reagan administration

said yesterday that Asia's "Four Tigers" — so-called because of their aggressive push towards prosperity — would be removed from the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

Their economies were so strong that they should no longer benefit from measures intended for less well developed countries, the White House said.

Policy
The GSP covers items such as electronics, wooden furniture, toys, household electrical goods and magnetic recording material.

Senior Hong Kong trade officials said the colony should not have been included because of its open trade policy.

"Any US company can come and set up shop here, but you try and sell a packet of American cigarettes in South Korea, one official said in an interview.

South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore are known as the "Four Tigers" of Asia because of their aggressive push towards prosperity.

Hong Kong's acting secretary for trade and industry KY Yeung told a news conference today: "This will send the wrong signal to trading partners of the US and

it will remove an important incentive to others to open their markets."

Yeung agreed with the assessment by leading figures on the Hong Kong industrial scene that the decision would have little overall effect on the colony's economy.

The United States imported some \$10 billion worth of GSP-eligible goods from the Four Tigers in 1987, which accounted for nearly 58 per cent of all GSP trade to the United States, according to US figures.

South Korea is urgently trying to settle its worsening trade disputes with the United States. Officials said Friday's move was not surprising.

"It is bad news," said one Seoul trade official who asked not to be identified. "But the US decision... had been widely expected here."

Pressure
"We are faced with strong US pressure to open the Korean market wider. We believe US trade sanctions are almost inevitable unless current trade disputes are solved quickly."

In Singapore, George Abraham, secretary-general of the island's Federation of Chambers

of Commerce and Industry, said the move would hurt US companies based in Singapore.

"We are not only an exporter of components manufactured by American companies here," he said, "but we also re-export large amounts of American goods. The action is tantamount to Washington's cutting off its nose to spite its face."

Link
Some industrial figures in Hong Kong said the US decision had used the GSP issue as a bargaining chip to try and force Hong Kong to cut the link between the US dollar and the Hong Kong dollar and revalue the colony's currency upward.

Taiwan's Vice Economic Minister Wang Chien-Shien said in an interview earlier this month that the island's trade surplus with the United States would drop to \$14 billion this year against a record \$16 billion in 1987 because of Taiwan's rising purchases of American products, including machinery and consumer goods.

"Despite our efforts to balance the trade, we will not see an early end to pressures from major trading partners to open

our markets wider," Vincent Siew, director of the Board of Foreign Trade, told Reuters earlier this month.

Meanwhile US officials say the Reagan administration's removal of Asia's "Four Tigers" from the list of countries eligible for trade concessions will affect some \$10 billion in trade with the United States.

Over the past decade Hong Kong, the Republic of (South) Korea, Singapore and Taiwan have made such tremendous strides in their economic development that they can now compete effectively in the United States without preferential treatment.

"White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said yesterday. Congressman Fortney Stark, a California Democrat, said yesterday he would introduce legislation to remove the trade concession for South Korea if the administration did not act."

And Treasury Secretary James Baker has been trying to get Taiwan, Hong Kong and South Korea to allow their currencies to increase in value versus the dollar. This would make Asian goods more expensive and help narrow the US trade deficit with those countries.

Kabul seeks long-term credits

Afghanistan is not Soviet economic colony, says minister

KABUL, Jan 30, (Reuters): Afghanistan will remain heavily dependent on Soviet aid and trade even after withdrawal of Soviet armed forces but has no intention of being an economic colony of Moscow, Afghan Commerce Minister Mobammad Khan Jalal said.

In an interview with Reuters in the Afghan capital, he painted a picture of a small country far from world markets, its economy ravaged by nine years of war which would leave it more than ever dependent on the goodwill of its big northern neighbour.

Worse
"Even before the war we were running a big trade gap. Now we are in an even worse position — we have a very negative picture," said Jalal, speaking at his heavily-guarded ministry in the Karte Seh quarter of south Kabul.

The minister, a fluent English speaker who has held senior government posts since before the 1978 left-wing revolution, was reluctant to give exact figures but agreed that the excess of imports over exports was now greater than the 30.5 per cent recorded two years ago.

The budget deficit last year was around 32 per cent and inflation was running above 20 per

cent. The trade and budget shortfalls were filled partly by eating a little each year from limited reserves but mainly with credits from the Soviet Union, Jalal said.

"In the past, the contribution of international agencies like the IMF (International Monetary Fund) was very substantial but in the past 10 years (since the 1978 revolution) they have kept themselves out."

On the other hand, the minister said: "My personal experience is that when we have had problems with repaying our debts, the Soviet Union has rescheduled them — we have precedents for this from many years back."

Most Soviet loans were now in the form of concessional long-term credits, he said. The country had relatively low pre-revolutionary debts owed to the West, mainly with 30- to 40-year terms. But even servicing these was a big burden.

President Najibullah last week said the war had cost Afghanistan 50 billion Afghanis (\$1 billion at the official rate).

Jalal said that this was in terms of damage to fixed assets in a country whose Gross Domestic Product last year was only \$3.5

billion. The cost of the war itself was far higher, he said, confirming, without giving figures, that most of this was borne by the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union accounted for 55 to 60 per cent of Afghanistan's two-way trade, other Communist countries 10 per cent, Japan 10 per cent and South-East Asia and the West each five to 10 per cent.

"We are landlocked, far from the big markets in Europe, America and Asia. Our other neighbours are developing countries like ourselves," Jalal said.

Acknowledged
"I would not use the term 'economic colony', but our northern neighbour is very important to us."

Echoing the conciliatory tone adopted by Najibullah at a news conference last week, Jalal said post-war Afghanistan would welcome assistance from any quarter.

"The World Bank, the IMF, the Asian Development Bank — if they are willing to help Afghanistan reconstruct — why not, if they come with kind intentions?"

The minister acknowledged that IMF aid might entail strict conditions and devaluation of the sagging Afghani, officially pegged at 55 to the dollar but

trading in the free market at more than 200 to the dollar.

"Devaluation," he said, "I don't know. It is quite reasonable. It is difficult to keep the value of money a stable point. These are the facts and the trend."

Jalal also foresaw that the IMF might demand an end to subsidies for basic necessities such as wheat, flour, edible oil and sugar supplied cheaply or free to government workers.

The commerce minister was clear that the main thrust of Afghanistan's development after the war would be rebuilding its agriculture, even if this meant delaying industrialisation.

"Most of our Gross Domestic Product is based in agriculture, 70 per cent of our people are engaged in it. It needs urgent attention and help, so the first sector will be agriculture."

Investment
He said: "We don't have enough money for investment, so we will look for long-term credits and for expertise and technical know-how from whatever quarter."

Jalal said Afghanistan had a mixed economy and would continue to do so.

"There are state monopolies in imports of basics like fuel, grain

and sugar and exports of natural gas and cotton. But half of our foreign trade and up to 75 per cent of our internal trade is private — the proportion has hardly changed since the revolution."

Thriving
The widely-available unofficial exchange rate for the Afghani has led to a thriving private sector with a huge range of consumer goods in the Kabul bazaars for those with the money to buy.

The minister defended the free market rate, saying most of the economy, both private and government, was based on it. "It is not a black market — let us call it pale grey," he said. "We have had a two-tier exchange rate for the past 30 to 40 years."

But he hinted that after the war, the free market might be reconsidered. In this context, "the government is studying how to improve the monetary situation," he said without elaborating.

Capable
"Afghanistan is capable of building itself up," Jalal concluded, mentioning cotton, wheat, minerals and fruits as areas for export growth.

But as to the policies which would bring this about: "It is a little bit early to say — let us first be calm and quiet."

Oil output exceeds 1987 target

Soviet trade turnover with West drops

MOSCOW, Jan 30, (Reuters): The Soviet Union's trade turnover with the West fell by 4.6 per cent in the first nine months of last year as Moscow cut back its purchases of Western goods, the Soviet News Agency Tass said yesterday.

Tass said Soviet trade with Western countries from January to September of 1987 was 20.7 billion roubles (\$34.6 billion). It said trade had fallen by one billion roubles (about \$1.67 billion) from the same period in 1986.

The drop in trade "was caused by a reduction in Soviet purchases," Tass said.

Foreign analysts said the Soviet Union is apparently cutting back Western imports because of reduced revenues from the raw materials it exports, especially oil.

The figures indicated the Soviet Union was running a

trade deficit with the West of about 300 million roubles (\$500 million) for the first nine months of 1987, which analysts said showed an improvement.

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The figures indicated the Soviet Union was running a

million roubles (\$1 billion) compared with the same period the previous year.

Soviet imports from West Germany amounted to about two billion roubles (\$3.3 billion) over the nine-month period, Tass said.

Finland, Italy, France and Japan remained in second through fifth place respectively, the report said.

The Soviet Union reduced its trade with Japan by 550 million roubles (\$920 million) to 1.9 billion roubles, Tass said.

Trade with the United States dropped by a substantial 300 million roubles (\$501 million) to 943.6 million roubles (\$1.57 billion).

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union's oil output was 624 million tonnes in 1987, seven million tonnes over the official output target, Tass reported yesterday.

Donors pledge \$1b for Sadcc

ARUSHA, Tanzania, Jan 30, (AP): Mainly Western donors pledged \$1 billion to help black southern African states fight economic dependence on South Africa over the next four years, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference said yesterday.

The two-day conference "is one of our most successful so far," Simba Makoni, head of Sadcc secretariat, told a closing news conference.

He said several donors are discussing aid to help the Mozambican Army protect their development projects from South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance rebels.

"There is a growing appreciation that security and development aid go hand in hand," said Makoni, a Zimbabwean.

Britain already is training Mozambican Army officers in

Zimbabwe and Spain this year starts training rural Mozambican policemen in Europe.

Sweden said it is working on ways to give non-lethal assistance to the Mozambican Army. The European Economic Community is considering similar proposals.

"You cannot do development projects in rural areas without the necessary protection," Dieter Frisch, EEC development director general, said in an interview. "We are ready to support the (Mozambican) troops who defend our projects with things like food, clothes and shoes."

The conference's final communiqué noted economies of most of its nine member states registered stagnant or declining levels of growth "caused by hostile economic environments and structural weaknesses, adverse climatic conditions, and the war of aggression waged by the South African regime."

African regime."

Cabinet ministers representing governments of every political hue, from Britain to the Soviet Union, attended the meeting of the organisation founded in 1980 to loosen traditional economic ties with South Africa.

Sadcc members states are as diverse as its supporters, from Marxist Angola to conservative Malawi. Other members are Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The conference's final communiqué noted member states continued to face serious hardships.

Most registered stagnant or declining economic activity "caused by hostile economic environments and structural weaknesses, adverse climatic conditions, and the war of aggression waged by the South African regime."

World Business Summary

Dollar stability needed as US election looms

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan 30, (Reuters): Financial markets need to regain confidence in the dollar after October's stock market crash and as the US presidential election looms, former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said yesterday. In his keynote address to this year's economic forum, he urged Washington to adopt a series of measures to help restore that confidence, and urged presidential candidates to start taking the issue seriously. "Three months have passed since the 'Black Monday,' and the tension felt at the time seems now to be easing," his prepared text said. "However, if the stock markets crash again, the investors of Japan and other foreign countries (are) bound to be much more cautious about investing in America's financial markets. This could lead to a further appreciation of the dollar, higher US interest rates and an economic recession," he said.

Nakasone added: "I very much hope that candidates for the White House and Congress will seriously address the very important role that the dollar plays as the world's key currency, and will advocate policies to prevent the volatile fluctuation of the dollar." He suggested the United States consider taking steps to promote savings, just as Japan was now trying to discourage saving in favour of consumption. "For instance, Japan abolished last year its tax benefits for the interest on savings. How about an idea that the United States introduces a similar type of tax incentives for savings?" he said. The United States should also consider selling government bonds in currencies other than the dollar — an idea Washington has steadfastly resisted under President Reagan, though it was used by Jimmy Carter when the dollar crisis of the late 1970s erupted. Such bonds "could also work as a signal that demonstrates the determination of the United States to maintain the confidence of the market in the dollar," Nakasone said.

US personal income up

WASHINGTON, Jan 30, (Reuters): The personal income of Americans rose 0.7 per cent in December while spending increased by 0.5 per cent, the Commerce Department reported yesterday. The rise in income, which reversed a 0.5 per cent decline in November, was in line with expectations. The government reported a 0.5 per cent rise in spending, the same as in November. In a report on gross national product on Wednesday the government said consumer spending between October and December registered the steepest quarterly decline since 1980.

The increase in income and spending in December bode well for continued US economic expansion, but economists doubt that Americans will spend freely enough to eliminate the need for production cuts to reduce the stocks of unsold goods that piled up in the 1987 fourth quarter. For all of 1987, personal income rose 6.0 per cent following a 6.2 per cent rise in 1986. After adjustment for inflation, however, average income last year rose just 1.2 per cent, the smallest gain since a 0.6 per cent rise in 1982. In 1986, inflation-adjusted income increased 4.0 per cent. The personal savings rate, which is savings as a percentage of disposable income, rose to 4.7 per cent in December from 4.5 per cent in November. But for the whole of 1987, the savings rate fell to 3.8 per cent, the lowest rate since 3.1 per cent in 1947. The 1986 rate was 4.3 per cent.

Takeshita to visit China

TOKYO, Jan 30, (AP): Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita plans to visit Beijing in June for talks about Japan's financial assistance to China, among other matters, Kyodo News Service said today. The date for the trip has not been determined, Kyodo said. Kyodo quoted unidentified government officials in the report, independent confirmation was not immediately available. The officials told Kyodo that Beijing's request for Japanese loans totaling 1.6 trillion yen (\$12.5 billion) and a dispute over ownership of a Chinese student dormitory in western Japan are among subjects expected to be discussed when Takeshita visits the Chinese capital. China has requested the loans to help restructure its industries as part of its economic modernisation programmes, Kyodo said. Japan is China's largest single source of development aid. It has provided \$3 billion in direct government loans, grants in aid, technological cooperation and loans by the Export-Import Bank of Japan. China has accused Japan of adopting a "two China" policy in a court case in which a student dormitory in the ancient capital of Kyoto was recognised as belonging to Taiwan's Nationalist government. Tokyo has no official diplomatic ties with Taiwan.

Invest in India's largest, most modern colour picture tube project

UPTRON

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

<p>OUTSTANDING PROMOTERS UPTRON, TOSHIBA and MITSUBISHI</p> <p>INDIA'S LARGEST CPT PROJECT Capacity of 750,000 colour picture tubes p.a.</p> <p>WORLD'S BEST TECHNOLOGY From Toshiba, Japan which has over 20% share of the world CPT market and several technological "firsts" to its credit.</p> <p>LATEST PLANT, REVOLUTIONARY PRODUCTS Brand new, automated, custom-made plant to manufacture the revolutionary mini-neck, flat square and black matrix tubes.</p> <p>BOOMING MARKET Demand for Colour TVs — and therefore</p>	<p>CPTs — expected to increase from 9,00,000 to 20,00,000 by 1990. Captive consumption of significant quantity by Uptron itself.</p> <p>IMPORT SUBSTITUTION As CPTs have so far been totally imported, Uptron CPT's sales are assured.</p> <p>ALREADY IN PRODUCTION Sales of about Rs. 10 crores already achieved.</p> <p>IDEAL LOCATION Sahibabad — just 22 kms from Delhi (Connaught Place) — the heart of the CPT market, where over 35% of India's colour TVs are manufactured.</p>
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GIC tries to give more investment opportunities

Quick return of Gulf investments ruled out

By Khaled Ahmed

THE Executive Chairman of Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC), Dr Khaled Al Fayed, ruled out a "quick return" of Gulf investments from abroad as a result of the world stock markets crash last year and the continuous fluctuations in these markets.

In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times, Dr Al Fayed stressed that the main reason Gulf capital was invested abroad was the lack of enough investment opportunities in the Gulf countries. He described this as the main obstacle and cause for this problem.

He denied that Gulf capital went outside the Gulf because of better returns abroad, and emphasised that national capital would return to their countries as soon as enough investment opportunities were created.

Positive

Dr Al Fayed described the activities and functioning of the GIC during the past three years as "encouraging and positive" in a way that exceeded all expectations.

He revealed the GIC contributed \$52 million to the capital of 10 important Gulf investment projects, the total capital of which was over \$250 million and its investment costs more than \$800 million.

Dr Al Fayed stressed that the GIC was different from other establishments in the way it

worked to create and provide investment opportunities, evaluate them and after studying their economic feasibility, offering them to Gulf investors of the private sector.

The GIC also enters as a partner at present in the capital of some projects and is planning to enter as a financier for such projects in the future.

He stressed that the GIC dealt in a dynamic manner with the available investment opportunities in the GCC states.

He emphasised that whenever the GIC found a good investment opportunity, it did not hesitate to provide finances and enter as a partner.

Investment

Dr Al Fayed said that the GIC was "not neglecting the best forms of investment," namely the development of human resources in the GCC states.

He said that 52 GIC employees underwent training courses in the Gulf and abroad last year alone. He added that the cost of training only last year was more than \$720,000 or about six per cent of the staff expenses in the GIC. He added that the Gulf employees in the GIC formed 60 per cent of the total employees, followed by other Arabs at 20 per cent and foreigners of low skills, especially drivers, at 20 per cent.

He said that the GIC also contributed to rationalising investment decision-making in the Gulf, through providing investment opportunities to the private sector after establishing its economic feasibility.

Dr Al Fayed stressed that the GIC was different from other establishments in the way it



Dr Khaled Al Fayed

omiceability, with readiness to enter as partners and financiers. It also provided advice to the private sector about doubtful projects.

Al Fayed announced that the GIC, in cooperation with the GCC general secretariat, was financing a study to evaluate the various economic aspects in the GCC states in order to explore new investment opportunities. He said that one of the conditions of this study was to come out with at least 20 ideas for good investment projects, to be followed by detailed study of their economic feasibility.

He said that since the GIC was formed three years ago it had concentrated on direct investments in the GCC states. He said that the GIC studied over 90 investment project ideas, and

after studying and evaluating these ideas, it committed itself in take part as a partner in ten of the projects. It contributed directly to the capital of these projects, and may in future cover part of their financial requirements in the form of loans.

He said that the GIC was currently evaluating 33 investment projects, and the provisional studies looked encouraging.

He said that among the projects were the Kuwait Pharmaceutical Industries Company to which it contributed 20 per cent of the capital, and the Qatari Dairies Co with the same share.

He said that the GIC also contributed in the capitals of several projects in the other Gulf states, such as the Saudi National Industries Company, Al Shaer Co. of Saudi Arabia, Titanium Oxide Company, and others. All these companies belonged to the private sector. It also contributed to the capitals of three Saudi maintenance projects including maintenance of aircraft engines and bodies.

Dr Al Fayed added that the GIC was currently studying a number of important projects before deciding to take part in them. These included a project on coal oil with Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, aluminium factories in Bahrain and Dubai, tyres and petrochemical projects.

The GIC was also studying agricultural and semi agricultural projects, a dairy project in

UAE as well as fish breeding and growing of palm trees by modern methods.

The GIC was also studying a project to manufacture hubs, and soft drinks bottles.

Study

Dr Al Fayed said that the comprehensive study being carried out in cooperation with the GCC General Secretariat, on investment opportunities, also aimed at studying the positions of current projects in GCC states and the reasons for the failure of some. It will discuss the possibility of the GIC helping in such projects, if some require to expand or strengthen their technical administration.

But he stressed that the GIC considered investment returns on its projects as "very important," because it dealt "on a purely commercial basis," but differed from other establishments by directly entering the projects and searching for new investment opportunities.

Activities

Asked whether the GIC was planning to expand its investment activities beyond the GCC borders, Dr Al Fayed stressed that the GIC's "main concern at present" was on the GCC states.

He said that the GIC board of directors has decided to concentrate on the GCC states and not to enter any investment projects outside the GCC states.

But he said that in the future the GIC may expand its activities to include Arab and foreign countries.

Alshall stock price indices

Kuwait trade volume increases slightly

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 40.47 points with a slight decrease of 0.08 points from last week. Alshall Index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.61 points with a slight increase of 0.08 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 19.67 million shares at a daily average of 3.93 million shares with a slight increase of 5.0 per cent over the previous week daily average of 3.72 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 19.76 million shares at a daily average of 3.95 million shares with an increase of 46.0 per cent over last week daily average of 2.70 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD6.35 million while it was KD0.92 million for the Gulf traded shares.

The market showed some signs of a slight increase which was more obvious for Gulf shares prices and for Kuwaiti shares total trading value.

Some companies announced their dividends, although some of the announced dividends do not reflect accurately the true financial performance of the related companies. They rather meet general public policy requirements, otherwise the market reaction could have been somewhat different.

For Kuwaiti Shares the banking sector had the lead at 30 per cent which was responsible for the increase in the traded value.

Kuwait National Bank had the highest percentage of this sector trading at 32 per cent, followed by The Gulf Bank at 21 per cent then Kuwait Finance House at 19 per cent.

The services sector came second at 29 per cent of total trading with Kuwait Commercial Markets at 69 per cent of this sector trading volume, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems at 124 per cent.

The investment sector came third at 22 per cent with Investment Pearl Kuwait at 71 per cent of this sector, International Financial Advisers (IFA) at 18 per cent and Commercial Facilities at 19 per cent.

For Gulf share market the financial companies sector and the other companies sector had a percentage of 54 per cent of total traded volume respectively, with Coast Investment and Development Company having 34 per cent of the total market traded volume, followed by Ras Al Khaima White Cement at 19 per cent and Gulf Medical Projects at 10 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 27/1/88	Wednesday 20/1/88	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	95.00	94.08	-0.92
The Gulf Bank	32.70	32.70	—
The Commercial Bank	23.52	23.95	-0.44
Alahli Bank	36.04	36.04	—
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	24.56	25.00	-0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	35.32	34.92	0.44
Burgan Bank	27.75	27.25	0.50
Kuwait Finance House	66.89	66.89	—
Sector Index	43.32	43.16	0.16
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	35.53	35.88	-0.34
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	29.55	29.55	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	85.71	85.71	—
IFA	83.82	85.29	-1.47
Commercial Facilities	96.59	96.59	—

Gulf shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 27/1/88	Wednesday 20/1/88	Change points
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	40.23	40.23	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	29.23	-0.77
Alahli Insurance Co.	45.53	46.33	-0.80
Warba Insurance Co.	84.19	84.19	—
Sector Index	40.38	40.71	-0.33
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	35.68	35.68	—
United Realty	14.52	14.74	-0.22
National Real Estate	46.58	47.78	-1.19
Sector Index	25.39	25.69	-0.33
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.63	-0.41
Refrigeration Indust.	84.69	82.60	2.09
Gulf Cables	105.93	106.96	-1.03
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	76.44	76.44	—
Sector Index	33.50	33.80	-0.30
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	200.88	205.20	-4.32
Kuwait Cinema Co.	10.37	10.37	—
Public Warehousing Co.	87.88	90.91	-3.03
Kowail Comm. Markets Co.	38.95	42.94	-3.99
Mobile Telephone Syst.	366.67	371.43	-4.76
Sector Index	68.23	70.81	-1.58
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	51.87	51.87	—
United Fisheries	10.06	10.06	—
Kuwait United Poultry	90.21	90.21	—
Kuwait Food Co.	71.26	71.26	—
Sector Index	44.97	44.97	—
Overall Index	40.47	40.55	-0.08

Financial Companies			
	Wednesday 27/1/88	Wednesday 20/1/88	Change points
First Gulf Bank	228.95	228.95	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internal Bank	100.69	100.69	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	96.81	96.81	—
Pearl Investment Co.	56.81	56.81	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.76	61.76	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	77.06	77.06	—
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	71.13	70.35	0.77
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	61.36	61.36	—
Sector Index	65.11	65.00	-0.11
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	11.97	11.97	—
Shargha Cement	7.00	7.00	—
Fujairah Cement	9.87	9.21	0.66
Ajman Cement	10.00	10.00	—
Ras al-Khaima W. Cement	18.33	18.89	-0.56
Gulf Medical Projects	17.11	16.55	-0.55
Poultry & Fodder R. Alkha	36.36	36.36	—
Sector Index	12.52	12.52	—
Overall Index	48.61	48.53	0.08

Base Period 31/12/1983.

Bank of Bahrain profits steady

BAHRAIN, Jan 30, (Reuters): The National Bank of Bahrain, the island's oldest bank, said today it managed to hold 1987 net profit unchanged at 4.4 million dinars (\$1.7 million) despite a difficult business climate during the year.

The bank's chairman, Ahmed Ali Kanoo, told reporters earnings before provisions for bad and doubtful debts fell to 10.9 million dinars (\$29 million) from 11.4 million dinars (\$30 million) in 1986.

Decline

But the fall was offset by a decline in provisions to 6.5 million dinars (\$1.7 million) from 7.0 million (\$19 million). The bank's dividend payout was unchanged at 2.8 million dinars (\$7.5 million).

Acting general manager Yacoub Y. Mohammed attributed part of the fall in the bank's earnings to lower US interest rates in world financial markets.

The bank increased lending during the year by a sharp 54 per cent. In the last year there were good opportunities for lending — secure opportunities," said Mohammed.

Strategy

He said the bank's strategy over the coming year was to mobilise local capital by concentrating on personal loans and by increasing means of investment.

NBB is the second largest domestic bank in Bahrain in terms of assets after the Bank of Bahrain and K. Kuwait.

Bahrain's economy and its banks have been hit for the last several years by a decline in government oil revenues and an economic downturn in the region.

By Ahmed Al Jarallah, leading Kuwaiti journalist that demand for "housing, roads and better communications between Gulf states including perhaps a railway" will pick up once the Gulf war ends.

Dr Youssef A. Al Awadi, chief executive of Gulf Bank in Kuwait says: "If there is anywhere for the economy to go now it is upwards, with growth in the next 12 months and the years to come."

Pick up

Leading businessman Youssef Bin M. Al Nisaf says: "The Gulf war will end some way within one year. We are not going to be economically as we were before the war but are going to pick up."

MEED director Keith Sneed is currently in Kuwait to deliver personal copies of the feature to sponsors. He said: "Kuwait 88: A Model for Development" is the biggest ever feature produced on Kuwait by an international publication.

It is the first of MEED's special features on selected countries due for publication this year but we have been delighted with the response and the support from the local marketplace. This in turn is an indicator of the resilience of the economy."

Unchanged

One-month, unchecked by Central Bank intervention, shot up to 4-5/8, 1/8 per cent from 3-3/4, 1/4 per cent on Thursday with deals reported at four per cent and 4-1/4 per cent. Two-month deals at 4-1/4 per cent and 4-1/8

Major countries defend effort to link economic policies

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan 30, (Reuters): The United States, Japan and West Germany today rejected criticism that their efforts to coordinate economic policy provoked the October world stock market crash.

"There is a lot of pessimism around. But policies are moving in the right direction," David Mulford, Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury, told the world economic forum meeting at this Swiss ski resort.

Discussions at the forum, which has brought together 1,000 top businessmen and government leaders for a week of talks, have been dominated by the question of how long the fragile stability of the dollar can last.

Helmut Schlesinger, vice-president of the West German Bundesbank (central bank), told the forum that West Germany had moved to increase domestic demand, the key to reducing trade imbalances, even though overall growth in the economy was slow.

"But the adjustment process takes time, more time than politicians and (financial) market participants like," he said. "There are limits to what is politically possible."

The United States was addressing its budget and trade deficits, Japan had made big strides and recognised the need to restructure its economy and West Germany had fulfilled pledges to promote growth, he said.

Many economic commentators say it was US complaints about West German economic performance, with a veiled threat Washington might abandon the February 1987 Louvre accord to stabilise currencies, which sparked the stock market crash.

But the Japanese Vice-Minister of Finance, Toyoo Gyohten, rejected charges voiced by Socialist Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and members of the audience, that it was the Louvre accord which set off the global stock market crash.

"I don't believe the Louvre accord tried to maintain the

dollar at unrealistically high levels," Gyohten said. "It did not represent an artificially high level maintained by central banks."

Convinced

Mulford said he was convinced the United States would be able to avoid a recession despite slower growth this year and argued that nothing should be done that would diminish the chance of sustaining growth in the United States.

US growth in the fourth quarter at 4.2 per cent annually was stronger than expected, especially after the stock market crash, but Mulford acknowledged that a sharp rise in inventories meant that not all production was being consumed.

Identified

Onno Ruding, the Dutch Finance Minister who also took part in the panel, identified the need to support renewed efforts to stabilise the dollar with a wider differential between US interest rates and those in other countries.

They have slashed overheads by cutting back on payrolls but have also poured resources into areas such as computerisation and management training.

Key comments from the MEED report include a prediction

Biggest ever feature on Kuwait

KUWAIT exudes a "new found confidence fortified by a belief that the worst of the regional economic recession is over." So says Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) in a 68-page special feature published today entitled Kuwait 88: A Model for Development.

The MEED report argues that Kuwait's development as "the dynamo of the GCC states," is itself a model for other countries to follow. And in an interview the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser M. Al Sabah is quoted as saying that "the free market will be maintained as a cornerstone of government policy."

The MEED report focusses on the private sector. "Far from succumbing, during the years of recession," says MEED, "Kuwait's best known companies, as well as many among the rank and file of lesser names, have seized the opportunity to restructure."

They have slashed overheads by cutting back on payrolls but have also poured resources into areas such as computerisation and management training.

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Unchanged One-month, unchecked by Central Bank intervention, shot up to 4-5/8, 1/8 per cent from 3-3/4, 1/4 per cent on Thursday with deals reported at four per cent and 4-1/4 per cent. Two-month deals at 4-1/4 per cent and 4-1/8

per cent. Three-month rose 1/4 point to 4-3/4, 1/4 per cent while six-month, which dealt at 4-1/4 per cent on Thursday, was 4-7/8, 3/8 per cent. One-year was quoted unchanged at 5-1/2, five per cent.

The Central Bank's dollar exchange rate was softer at 0.2752/\$8 to the dollar from 0.2745/\$1 on Thursday. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of 0.2753/\$5.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates eased in a dormant yesterday market, pushed down by softening Eurodollar rates.

In London, Eurodollar rates closed 1/16 to 1/8 point lower on Friday amid speculation US monetary policy may ease.

KUWAIT'S Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khalid yesterday received president of the Economic Chamber for the region of Carinthia, Austria, Karl Baurecht and his accompanying delegation.

They discussed ways to boost economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Later president of Kuwait's Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdel Aziz Hamad Al Saqer met Baurecht and his accompanying delegation and discussed trade relations between Kuwait and Austria.

The 14-member Austrian delegation arrived here on Friday.

Responding to an invitation from the Center for Arab Studies, Georgetown University, the president of Arab Society for the Protection of Industrial Property (Asprip) Talal Abu Ghazaleh delivered a lecture, last week entitled "Impediments to US-Arab economic relations."

In his lecture Abu Ghazaleh examined the US-Arab economic relations and suggested ways

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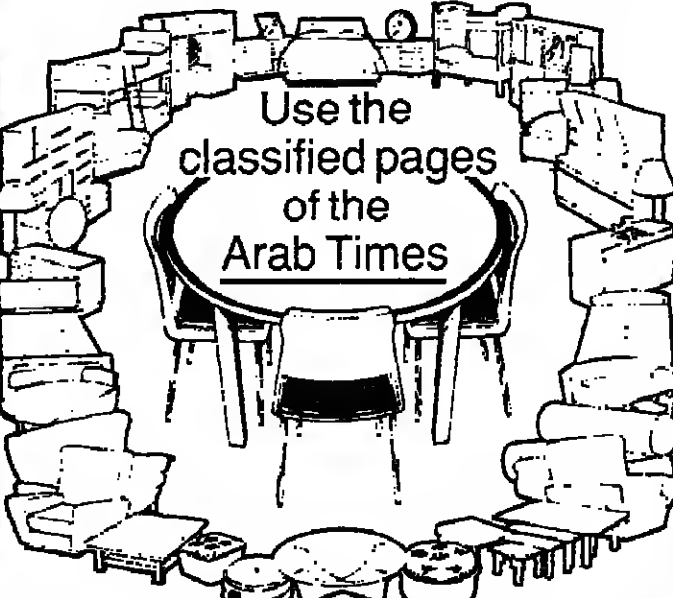
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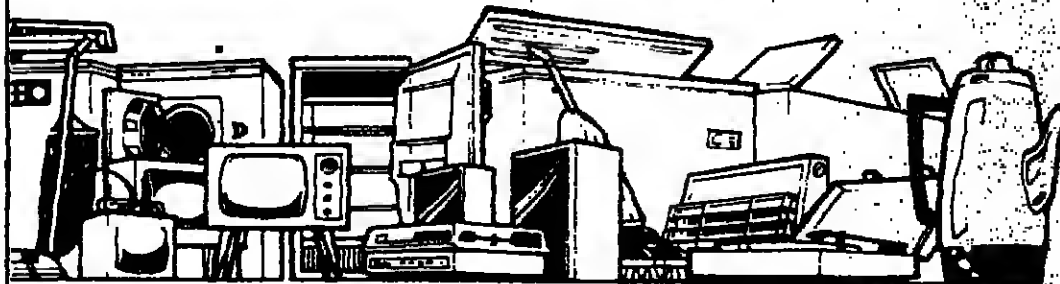
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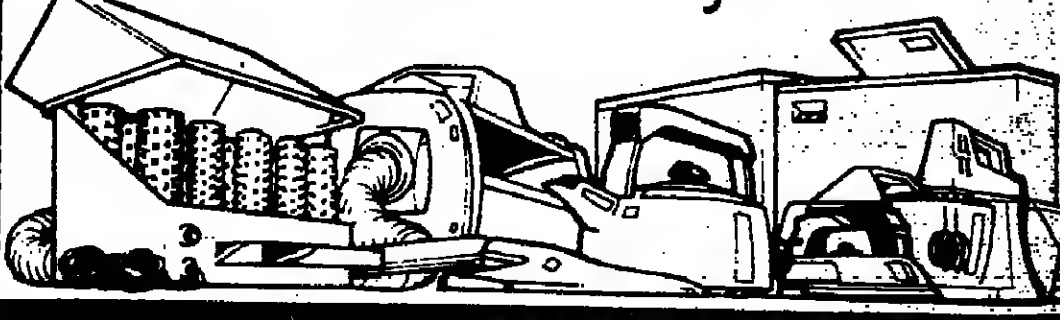
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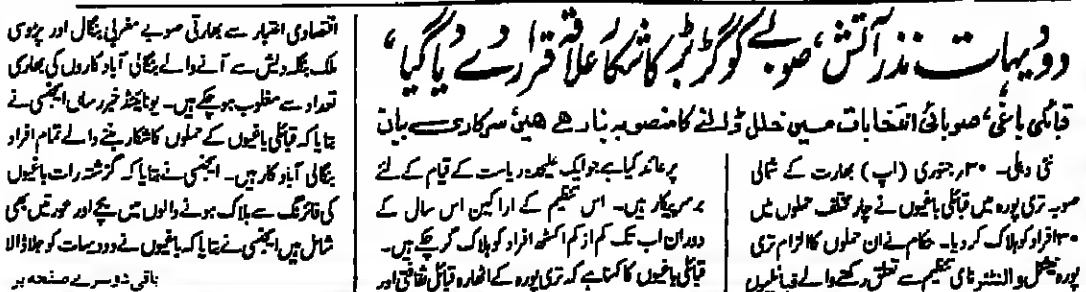


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[illegible]


پلیٹن میں کیمرسٹ انجیئر

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

افن الاصل

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

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افن الاصل



Sri Lanka cruise to 115-run win

ALICE SPRINGS, Australia, Jan. 30 (Reuters): A four-wicket haul by medium-pace Chaminda Ramanayake helped sweep Sri Lanka to a 115-run victory in a one-day game against a Northern Territory Invitation XI today.

Ramanayake claimed former Test batsman David Hookes and Wayne Phillips plus their South Australian teammates, Glenn Bishop among his victims in an eight-over spell costing only 12 runs.

Sri Lanka, who were put in to bat, scored 251 for five off 50 overs and then dismissed the Northern Territory side for 136.

As thunder clouds threatened, the Invitation XI, who included five South Australian players, lost Bishop for six, Hookes for seven and Phillips for a duck.

After heavy rain and an overnight electrical storm the start was delayed by half an hour.

But Sri Lanka made light work of an erratic pace attack with Arjuna Ranatunga top scoring with 85.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA
R. Ranatunga c Hunt b May 34
M. Samarasekera c McCarthy b Pemble 25
A. Gurusinghe run out 19
P. de Silva c Hookes b McCarthy 70
A. Ranatunga c Boyd b Zesers 85
G. de Alwis not out 10
Asoka de Silva not out 14
Extras (b-11 lb-0 w-5) 26
Total (for five wickets) 251
50 overs

Fall of wickets: 1-52 2-52 3-84 4-213 5-250

Bowling: Boyd 10-30-0 (2w), Pemble 10-2-35-1 (1w), Bishop 3-0-15-0 (2w), May 10-0-43-1, McCarthy 10-0-62-1, Zesers 10-1-45-1.

NORTHERN TERRITORY Invitation XI

G. Bishop c Samarasekera b Ramanayake 6
S. Wiseman run out 19
R. Hunt b Ramanayake 0
W. Phillips b Ramanayake 0
D. Hookes c Asoka de Silva b Ramanayake 7
R. Wright b Asoka de Silva 15
D. Boyd run out 14
T. May run out 22
S. McCarthy b Tilakaratne 28
A. Zesers not out 2
B. Pemble run out 8
Extras (b-12 w-3) 15
Total (43.3 overs) 136
Fall of wickets: 1-6 2-7 3-9 4-12 5-23 6-48 7-54 8-122 9-124

Bowling: Ramanayake 8-4-12-4, Asoka de Silva 6-3-15-0 (w-1), Samarasekera 5-0-19-0 (w-2), A. de Silva 10-1-32-1, Kaluperuma 10-2-31-0, Tilakaratne 4-0-15-1.

Buckingham rescues Tasmania

HONOLULU, Australia, Jan. 30 (Reuters): Danny Buckingham hit a spirited recovery by Tasmania today after they had looked likely to crumble against Victoria on the second day of their four-day Sheffield Shield cricket match.

Buckingham hit an uncharacteristic 50 as Tasmania took their first innings total to 179 for four in reply to Victoria's 409 for eight declared.

Early

Victorian opener Gary Watts, playing his first game for Victoria for four years, was finally out for 176. Former Australian Test paceman Dennis Lillee took three wickets today for 29 to end with figures of three for 92.

Tasmania was in trouble early on when opener Glenn Hughes was forced to retire hurt after mistiming a book shot off paceman Paul Reiffel.

Declared Victoria 409 for eight declared (Gary Watts 176, Dav Whatmore 52, Dennis Lillee three for 92), Tasmania 179 for four (Danny Buckingham 51 not out).

Felt

"I guess 5.15. I know I ran a lot better than my heat and had a lot better start," he said.

"This is the best I've ever felt since Rome," Johnson said after the race, referring to his world outdoor record of 9.83 seconds in 100 metres, set last August.

"The body was ready to go and the muscles were very loose, Johnson said. "I could go lower but right now it was a good time," said Johnson, who left yesterday for Europe. "I'm pleased with it."

Johnson also holds the world indoor record in 60 metres at 6.41 seconds and the world indoor in 50 metres at 5.55 seconds.

Canadians Desai Williams and Mark McKoy were second and third at times of 5.28 seconds and 5.29 seconds. American Stanley Floyd, whose five-year-

AUSTRALIA REACH 14 FOR NO LOSS

Broad fined as England meander to 425

SYDNEY, Jan. 30, (Reuters): England made few friends among Australian cricket supporters today by taking almost two days of a celebration cricket Test match to meander to 425.

At stumps on the second sunlit day, Australia had reached 14 without loss after 40 minutes at the crease in their first innings.

Little aggression was shown by the English batting line-up except for Chris Broad, who was fined £500 (\$900) for petulantly knocking his leg stump out of the ground after being dismissed for 139.

Recent

It was the second time in a few weeks that the left-handed opener had been in trouble. In the first Test of the controversial recent series against Pakistan, Broad was reprimanded after refusing to walk when given out.

England tour manager Peter Lush, announcing the fine, told journalists: "There can be no excuses. It was a sad end to a fine innings."

"Everybody was told before the tour started what was expected of them. No matter how disappointed you are, you don't do those things."

Australian wicketkeeper Greg Dyer also had an eventful day, claiming two stumpings and a



Athey sweeps a ball from Taylor as Border and Dyer watch. (Reuters wirephoto)

catch before having to leave the field after a lifting ball from Peter Taylor hit him square between the eyes with a sickening crack.

Broad was the second of Steve Waugh's victims in the morning session. England had added 24 to their overnight 221 for two before England captain Mike Gatting edged a lifting delivery straight to wicketkeeper Dyer. Gatting scored 13.

Seventeen runs later Broad thought Waugh was going to dish up yet another bounce and ducked. But the ball was of regulation length and deflected

off the opener's gloves onto his stumps, triggering his disappointed reaction.

Broad's 434-minute knock was his second highest in Test cricket after 162 in the second Test of the 1986/87 Ashes tour in Perth.

The rest of an undistinguished England line-up all contributed runs to the total with Bill Athey playing some fluent drives in his 37 before he was caught and bowled by Peter Taylor.

Taylor, returning to the ground where he took eight wickets on his debut, garnered



Getting heads for the dressing room after being dismissed. (Reuters wirephoto)

another four by bowling a beautiful length and line in his second Test.

Bruce French struck some good blows before coming down the wicket to Taylor and being stumped for 47, his team's

second highest score.

Soon afterwards Dyer, who also missed a stumping and a catch during the day, failed to see the ball coming out of a foothole past Graham Dilley's bat.

The wicketkeeper had to have

two stitches inserted in a cut on the bridge of his nose. Mike Veletta took over behind the stumps for the rest of the day's play.

Taylor took four for 84 while Waugh finished with three for 51. The Test celebrates 200 years of white settlement in Australia.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings (221 for two over night)
C. Broad b Waugh 139
M. Moxon b Sleep 40
T. Robinson c Veletta b Dodemaide 43
M. Gatting c Dyer b Waugh 13
W. Athey c and b Taylor 37
D. Capel c Sleep b Taylor 21
J. Emburey st Dyer b Sleep 23
B. French st Dyer b Taylor 47
N. Foster c Border Taylor 19
E. Hemmings not out 8
G. Dilley b Waugh 13
Extras (b-4 lb-9 nb-8 w-1) 22
Total 425

Fall of wickets: 1-93 2-192 3-245 4-262 5-313 6-314 7-346 8-387 9-410

Bowling: McDermott 35-8 65-0 (6w 1w), Dodemaide 36-10 98-1 (2w), Taylor 34-10 54-4, Waugh 22-5 5-13, Sleep 45-8 114-2.

AUSTRALIA first innings
D. Boon not out 12
G. Marsh not out 1
Extras (w-1) 1
Total (for no wicket) 14

To bat: Dean Jones, Allan Border, Mike Veletta, Steve Waugh, Greg Dyer, Tony Dodemaide, Peter Taylor, Peter Sleep, Craig McDermott.

Bowling: Dilley 2-1-6-0 (1w), Foster 5-1-8-0, Emburey 3-3-0-0.

Bradman makes first appearance at Test match ground

SYDNEY, Jan. 30, (Reuters): Sir Donald Bradman made his first appearance on a Test match ground for many years when he led a drive-past of cricketing greats at the bicentennial Test today.

Bradman, who retired 40 years ago with a Test batting average of 99.94, was carried round Sydney Cricket ground in a green 1911 Rolls Royce to a standing ovation from 30,000 cricket fans.

The master, 78, was followed in other vintage cars by Australian and English ex-cricketers such as Bill O'Reilly, Ted Dexter and Geoff Boycott.

The "living legends" display was the highlight of a social whirl that has proved as exhausting for many ex-cricketers as any five-day Test match.

Wednesday night saw the bicentennial ball where tickets for the general public were a cool 175 dollars (\$120).

On Thursday the players took part in a horse-drawn procession through Sydney's City Centre in between receptions, cocktail parties and a sumptuous dinner.

The "living legends" teams were selected by cricketers from various generations. O'Reilly, Greg Chappell and Richie Ben-chose the Australian team.

O'Reilly, on entering the selection meeting, apparently looked at the other two and said: "Right, who are the other eight going to be?"

The English selectors were Sir Len Hutton, Colin Cowdrey and Ian Botham. Cowdrey did not make the final team.

A computer is running a pbanom Test match between the two "living legends" teams in step with the bicentennial Test. Australia has scored well over 300 in their first innings with Neil Harvey scoring a century and Bradman just eight.

Living legends teams: Australia — Bill Ponsford, Arthur Morris, Don Bradman, Greg Chappell, Neil Harvey, Keith Miller, Richie Benchose, Ray Lindwall, Rod Marsh, Dennis Lillee, Bill O'Reilly.

England — Len Hutton, Geoff Boycott, Peter May, Denis Compton, David Gower, Ian Botham, Alan Knott, Harold Larwood, Fred Trueman, Bob Appleyard, Doug Wright.

Stage set for Super Bowl

Coaches still haunted by past defeat

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 30, (Reuters): In the final countdown to the big game tomorrow, the coaches of both Super Bowl XXII teams seemed as much haunted by the fear of defeat as excited by the hope of victory.

"The Redskins don't want to go through it again," Washington coach Joe Gibbs said yesterday, referring to his team's loss in Super Bowl XVIII to the Los Angeles Raiders.

Emotional

"We'll get that across to our team and reach the same emotional peak as Denver," he said at the final news conference before the game.

The Denver Broncos are still smarting from their 39-20 Super Bowl defeat last year at the hands of the New York Giants.

"Each one of us that was here last year remembers how painful the loss was," Broncos coach Dan Reeves said.

The Broncos have 35 survivors from last year and the Redskins have 16 players who were on their roster in 1984 for the 38-9 loss to the Raiders.



Gibbs (left) and Reeves pose with the Vince Lombardi Trophy at a press conference yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Both coaches predicted a close, high-scoring season finale.

"It has an excellent chance of being a shootout," said Reeves. "It could very easily be a defensive struggle, but it has a better chance of being a high-scoring game."

Gibbs was more cagey but said the result could be close to the last previous game between the

ing defensive team like last year's Giants or the Chicago Bears of 1986.

Both coaches praised each other's defenses yesterday, but Washington's defensive unit was ranked only 20th out of 28 teams in the regular season, and Denver's was 10th.

The Redskins' defence, however, was very impressive in both post-season outings — against the Bears and the Minnesota Vikings.

Gibbs and Reeves revealed little about their game plans — hardly surprising given the secrecy that has surrounded their super bowl preparations.

The Redskins, in order to prevent spying, disguised players at practices with new numbers and names on their uniforms.

Gibbs did, however, allude to plans that included more than just strategies on stopping Denver's wonder boy quarterback John Elway.

"It's not one player. There'll be some guys who haven't been talked about this week who'll make some big plays," he said.

Sabay and Bruce lead Caloocan to victory



Pinky Buarano (back row, 2nd left) with other members of her team.

CALOOCAN City thwarted an impressive comeback bid by Mandaluyong on Friday when Willy Sabay and Danny Bruce converted their 9th and 10th frames to lead Caloocan to a 4-0 victory and keep them at the top of the standings in the First Filipino Non-pro Bowling League.

The other Caloocan members, who have helped keep their team on the top are Eva Sabay, Roger Sabado, Carl Baginda, Ed de la Fuente and Flor Tongson.

Novotas 4-0 and Pasig were awarded a bye.

After the 9th week of the League, Caloocan City are at the top followed by Manila, Pasay City, Pasig, Las Pinas, Mandaluyong, Marikina, Valenzuela, Malabon, Quezon City, Makati-GMBH, Paranaque while Novotas are in the last place.

The League is sponsored by the Mabuhay Restaurant and organised by the ebairman, Manny Inserto.

Pistons brush aside Celtics

PONTIAC, Michigan, Jan. 30, (AP): Joe Dumars scored six of his 20 points during a crucial third-quarter run and the Detroit Pistons beat the Boston Celtics 125-108 before an NBA-record 61,983 fans last night.

The crowd topped the previous record of 52,745 who saw the Pistons play host to the Philadelphia 76ers in Julius Erving's last game against Detroit on Feb. 14, 1987.

The Celtics fought back from a 62-56 halftime deficit to take a 71-70 lead on a pair of Robert Parish free throws with 5:43 remaining in the third quarter.

But the Pistons, on three straight baskets by Dumars, regained the lead with a 10-0 spurt and led the rest of the way.

Adrian Dantley scored 22 points for Detroit, 16 in the first half. Larry Bird scored 18 of his 25 points in the first half for Boston.

Detroit's biggest lead was 60-45 with 2:27 remaining in the half, but the Celtics, with Dennis Johnson hitting nine points, narrowed the deficit to 62-56 at halftime.

76ers 94, Pacers 89

Mike Gminski, in his best game since joining Philadelphia earlier this month, had 30 points and 17 rebounds as the crippled 76ers beat the Indiana Pacers 94-89, snapping a five-game losing streak.

The 76ers, who played without injured Charles Barkley, Cliff Robinson and Ben Coleman, broke open a close game with a 18-7 spurt in the third quarter, extending a five-point lead to 67-51 with 4:45 left in the quarter.

The Pacers, trailing 78-65 at the beginning of the final period, cut the deficit to 92-89 on a three-point play by Vern Fleming with 1:13 remaining. But Gminski tapped in his final field goal and

grabbed his 17th rebound to hold off the Pacers, who got 21 points and 12 rebounds from Chuck Person.

Bulls 120, Nets 93

Michael Jordan padded his League leads with 32 points and 10 steals as the Chicago Bulls kept the New Jersey Nets winless on the road with a 120-93 victory.

New Jersey, 0-18 this season away from home and losers of 26 straight on the road since last season, dropped its fifth consecutive game overall.

Jordan, who did not play the final quarter, helped the Bulls grab a 94-70 lead.

Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday (only games scheduled):

Philadelphia	94	Indiana	89
Detroit	125	Boston	108
Dallas	117	Seattle	109
Chicago	120	New Jersey	93
Milwaukee	97	L.A. Clippers	88
L.A. Lakers	117	Atlanta	107
Portland	128	Phoenix	119
Golden State	102	Utah	100

Lewis accused of vague drug allegations

LONDON, Jan. 30, (Reuters): John Holt, the general secretary of athletics' governing body, accused Olympic quadruple gold medalist Carl Lewis yesterday of making "vague and unsubstantiated" allegations of drug-taking in the spot.

"I was appalled at how vague and unsubstantiated his claims were," Holt told reporters at the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) headquarters here.

This week Lewis repeated his allegations that a number of athletes at last year's Rome World Championships had used performance-enhancing drugs.

Swiss runner Sandra Gasser was the only athlete positively tested at the championships.

Duty

"If Carl Lewis really has a conscience, and if he knows about athletes in the United States taking drugs, then I think he has a duty to inform the IAAF (the Athletics Congress of the United States) that there are certain people to his knowledge who are taking drugs," Holt said.

Holt said meeting promoters and athletes did not collude to avoid dope tests.

"It's almost impossible to substantiate claims that certain athletes will never be designated for doping control because meeting organisers need them too much," he said.

Consistent Tony Lason of Pasay City, with his straight projectile ball style, posted the Men's High Game for the day with 215 pinfalls. Walced Al Zinki of Malabon rolled a total of 560 pinfalls to walk away with the Men's High Series.

Record

Pinky Buarano of Quezon City, with her excellent delivery of the straight ball, set a new record for the Women's High Game with a single score of 222, beating the old record of 213 set last week.

Pinky maintained her dominance to claim the top honours in the High Series and High Average with 547 and 182 respectively. She became the 5th woman bowler to enter the 200 Club.

Soon after, Nits Alinea of Pasay City followed Pinky into the 200 Club with a score of exactly 200.

In the other games played on Friday: Las Pinas beat Paranaque 3-1, Malabon thrashed Marikina 4-0, Quezon City won by default against Makati-GMBH, Manila defeated Valenzuela 4-0, Pasay City blanked

Dewitt wins

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Jan. 30, (AP): Fifth-ranked International Boxing Federation midweight contender Doug Dewitt rallied furiously to secure a 10-round, majority decision draw against unranked Ron Essett last night.



United States President Ronald Reagan holds a football jersey presented to him by the University of Miami head coach Jimmy Johnson (left) as members of the team applaud. Reagan greeted Hurricanes, the national champions, in the White House. (Reuters wirephoto)

Johnson lowers own 50-yard mark

TORONTO, Jan. 30, (Reuters): Canadian Ben Johnson set his second world indoor best in the 50-yard dash in as many weeks, slashing his former mark of 5.20 seconds to 5.15 at the Toronto Challenger Indoor Athletics Meeting yesterday.

Johnson, who tied his old mark in a heat yesterday, predicted what his new world best would be before it was announced.

Felt

"I guess 5.15. I know I ran a lot better than my heat and had a lot better start," he said.

"This is the best I've ever felt since Rome," Johnson said after the race, referring to his world outdoor record of 9.83 seconds in 100 metres, set last August.

"The body was ready to go and the muscles were very loose, Johnson said. "I could go lower but right now it was a good time," said Johnson, who left yesterday for Europe. "I'm pleased with it."

Johnson also holds the world indoor record in 60 metres at 6.41 seconds and the world indoor in 50 metres at 5.55 seconds.



Johnson on his way to the new record. (Reuters wirephoto)

Canada's Angela Bailey-Taylor-Issajenko equalled American Evelyn Ashford's world indoor best with a time of 5.43.

the women's 50-yard dash. Compatriots Angela Bailey and Michelle Fina were second and third at 5.78 seconds and 5.85.

Johnson and Taylor-Issajenko's marks are called world records because the distance is infrequently run.

Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan, one of the world's premier indoor milers, won a slow-paced mile race in four minutes, 04.57 seconds, well off the world record of 3:49.78.

O'Sullivan raced to the lead in the last lap, surging ahead of American Marc Olesen, who was second and Kenya's Kip Cheruiyot, who was third.

Romanian Doina Melinte, who is undefeated this year, pulled ahead of early leader Betsy Wade of Britain to win the women's 1500-metre race in 4:10.81. Canadian Brit McRoberts was third.

Halway

Melinte's countrywoman, Maricica Puica, pulled up lame about halfway through the race and did not finish.

Puica won the gold medal in the memorable 3000-metre race at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, after Mary Decker-Slaney collided with South African-born Zola Budd.

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1. Re-enrollment for returning students will take place between January 4th and February 4th, 1988.
2. Brothers and sisters of returning students who would like to join the school next year are requested to apply between January 4th and February 4th, 1988, as they have priority over new students.
3. New student applications will be accepted starting Saturday January 9th, 1988, at 9:00 a.m.

NOTE: Old students and their brothers and sisters who fail to enroll within the above set dates will lose their priority privilege and hence, will be treated as new applicants with no guarantee whatsoever.

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SPORTS

GCC Military Championships open in Kuwait

THE first GCC Military Championships opened in Kuwait yesterday under the patronage of HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad.

The championships were declared open by Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad, who had been deputised by HH the Amir to attend the event on his behalf.

The opening was attended by the Interior Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabab, Minister of Electricity and Water, Homoud Al Roubai, Minister of Communications, Abdullah Al Sharan and the Army Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. Mezyed Ali Sani. All the ambassadors of the six GCC states taking part in the event were also present.

Stay

The Defence Minister, while opening the championship, wished all the participants a happy stay in Kuwait.

After the opening, parachutists from the United Arab Emirates jumped from helicopters, hovering at a height of 5,000 feet, carrying the flags of the GCC states. This was followed by a display by fighter planes.

After the opening, Sheikh Nawaf told newsmen that he was happy that the first championship had been held in Kuwait and that the GCC defence ministers had decided to hold the event every year.

Today, the competition starts in shooting and taekwondo.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Unity hockey

ENTRIES have opened for the Unity hockey 1988/89 season. The tournament scheduled to be held at the Ahmad Al-Hadi hockey grounds will commence shortly. Entries will be open until Feb 8. For further information contact Mohammed Naeem, tel. 3984175 (off), 3982776 (res) or Khalid Ishaq 3989111 ext 6228.

Title fight

RIMINI, Italy, Jan 30. (Reuters): Rene Jacquot of France stopped Luigi Minichillo of Italy to win the fourth round of a scheduled 12-round fight yesterday to win the vacant European light-middleweight boxing title.

Top boxer

MEXICO CITY, Jan 30. (Reuters): The world Boxing Council (WBC) yesterday named Mike Tyson its January Boxer of the Month for having successfully defended his heavyweight title against fellow American Larry Holmes on January 22.

Nigeria win

LAGOS, Jan 30. (Reuters): Nigeria qualified for the 1993 Olympic soccer tournament when they beat Algeria 2-0 after extra time in an African zone third round second match today for a 2-1 aggregate victory.

Qureshi takes Forces past Casuals

CASUALS failed by only four runs to overcome Forces in an exciting Rahim League match at Ahmad on Thursday. The game went all the way into the last over and could have turned at any point but Forces held on to win.

Forces batted first with openers Naeem (48) and Qureshi (33) putting on 80 for the first wicket against some accurate bowling from Anderson and Snowden.

It took the much-improved slow bowling of Peter David (four for 38) to make the breakthrough when Casuals seemed to be losing grip. He removed both the openers and worked his way through the remainder, helping keep the score down to 129 after 34 overs.

Debut

In reply, Casuals suffered an early setback when Tudball was adjudged caught behind. They lost a second wicket when Clements was bowled. This brought in Frank Davis for his batting debut and he scored 20 before he was stumped.

At the other end, Kevin Wells kept moving the score along and with Richard Snowden (12) seemed to have turned the game around when Qureshi (five for 23) struck to remove Snowden and then Wood.

Richardson made a brief appearance before Anderson came in and began hitting the ball. When only the last over remaining, Casuals needed 16 runs for victory but could manage only 12 to leave their total at 125 with Wells unbeaten on 57 and Anderson on 11.

JORDAN FINISH IN 4TH PLACE

Pakistan tame Singapore for crown

WORLD and Asian champions Pakistan retain the team title at the 4th Asian Squash Championship after beating Singapore 3-0 yesterday at the Al Arabi squash courts.

Pakistan, after winning their first three matches in the final round easily, ran into a little tougher opposition in their last game as the Singaporeans tried to contain the champions' onslaught.

In the first match, Qamar Zaman proved that he is back to his best in thrashing Heng 9-1 9-4 9-2. Although the first and last sets were easy for Qamar, he was made to struggle a little in the second.



The Pakistani team with the championship trophy.

Hong Kong beat Wael Tablat of Jordan 9-3 10-6 9-9-5. This was the only victory that Hong Kong had as the Jordanians fought back through Hamed Al Said and Eyad Kamal.

Hamed got the equaliser for Jordan by beating Tony Chua 9-5 7-9 4-9 9-1 9-7 and Eyad sealed Jordan's victory with a 9-3 9-5 10-9-5 win over Bon.

Malaysia took the third position.

Meanwhile, the president of the Kuwait Squash Federation, Sheikh Fahd Saad Al Abdullah, expressed his pleasure over the conduct of the championship.

The Kuwait federation president, talking about the performance of the Kuwaiti team, said that although luck did not favour the home team, all the players put in their best and expressed hope that Kuwait would do better in the next championship.

The Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabab, while speaking on the significance of the championship, said that the Kuwaiti youths had gained a lot from this event by playing against world class players like Jahangir Khan and Qamar Zaman.

Sheikh Salem added that the Kuwaiti team had not lost in this

tourney, because merely playing against world class players was a very big gain for the home team.

The chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Sheikh Salman Al Hmoud, praised the conduct of the championship and said that it had been a success on the technical, administrative and sports levels.

Sheikh Hmoud added that the success of this championship, like all the other international events held by Kuwait recently, clearly showed the importance that the Kuwaiti government attaches to youths and sports in Kuwait. He called on Kuwaiti youths to live up to the expectations on every occasion and event.

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Jahangir receives the singles trophy from Sheikh Salem.

Addressing the gathering, at the closing ceremony, Sheikh Fahd said this tournament had seen the largest gathering of squash players since 1980.

Sheikh Fahd expressed his gratitude and admiration for all the teams which participated in the tournament. He said that all the teams displayed a very high standard of sportsman spirit which contributed to the success of the event.

Sheikh Fahd also congratulated the Pakistani squad for winning the titles in the singles and team events. He announced that Hong Kong had been given the award for showing the best sporting spirit.

The Kuwait federation president, talking about the performance of the Kuwaiti team, said that although luck did not favour the home team, all the players put in their best and expressed hope that Kuwait would do better in the next championship.

The chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Sheikh Salman Al Hmoud, praised the conduct of the championship and said that it had been a success on the technical, administrative and sports levels.

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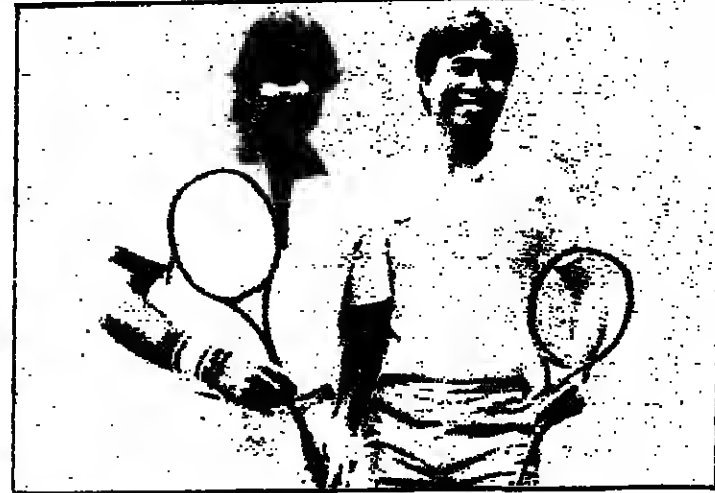
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Jahangir (left) and Abedin after their match.

Norman and Jansher move into semifinals

ANTWERP, Belgium, Jan 30. (Reuters): Defending champion Ross Norman of New Zealand and Pakistani world champion Jansher Khan both posted quarter-final wins yesterday to stay on course for a showdown in the Belgian Grand Prix squash tournament final.

Norman beat unseeded Australian Austin Adaraga 10-8 9-6 9-1, while Jansher survived a scare in the second game to defeat seventh seeded Neil Harvey of Britain 9-6 9-7 9-1.

Norman, the 1986 world champion, narrowly escaped defeat in the first game by using all the tricks in the book.

In the second game, Adaraga held on until 4-4 but then lost concentration by arguing with the referees. Norman took advantage to clinch the game, and swept his opponent aside in the third.

Norman, aiming to win the \$40,000 tournament for the third consecutive time and seize the

Fourth-seed Phil Kenyon of Britain booked a semifinal clash with Jansher by romping past compatriot Stuart Hailstone, the sixth seed, 9-3 9-2 9-2.

"He beat me twice before," Kenyon said of Jansher. "But who knows, a lot depends on the day, how he feels and how I feel. I think I have a little strategy ready. I must try not to let him dominate me."

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Czechs set sights on Games medals

PRAGUE, Jan 30. (Reuters): Czechoslovakia, by all appearances a "winter sport country," has only modest expectations for next month's Winter Olympics — two medals, of whichever hue, is the official goal.

"Our build-up for the Games has had its ups and downs, but I think we shall see at least two medals," said Antonin Himl, chairman of the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee. "Most of our sportsmen appear to be getting into form just in time."

In 14 previous Winter Olympics, Czechoslovakia has garnered just two gold, five silver and six bronze medals.

Medal hopes of the 60-strong contingent going to Calgary rest mainly on ice hockey and ski jumping.

Czechoslovakia's powerful ice hockey team have never quite

been able to shed the role of Olympic crown prince — overshadowed at first by Canada and later by the Soviet Union.

This time around the squad's expectations are modestly set on a bronze medal, after the silver won at the last Olympics in Sarajevo.

"The Soviets are again very strong and Canada, playing at home, will be a very hard team to beat," said Frantisek Pospisil, Czechoslovak co-trainer.

The ice hockey team have played a total of 23 pre-Olympic Games, including the Izvestia Cup in Moscow, with varying success.

At last month's Izvestia Cup, the final big tournament test before the Olympics, Czechoslovakia finished a disappointing fourth behind winners

Canada, the Soviet Union and Sweden.

The team, which in the past have lost many stars to the lure of professional offers from teams in Europe and North America, will leave at least one player behind at the Calgary Games — forward Jiri Hrdina has received official permission to sign on for two years with the National Hockey League Calgary Flyers.

Ski jumping is the Czechoslovakia's other strong suit but once again the gold seems out of reach.

"We've got a good team together and with a little bit of luck we should come home with at least one medal," coach Dalibor Motek said. "The big favourite is Finland's Matti Nykanen, but we too have our chances."

Motek's main hopes are Pavel Ploc, bronze medalist on

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